Anime • Videogames • Manga

Genki Life Magazine

17

秋 2014

Autumn

Sept 23-Dec 20

Hard Work, Good Friends and Best Luck

Tokyo Ghoul

Tokusatsu Spirit Lives!

Autumn Conventions

Manga Inside!

Also

Seiyūs of Summer 2014

Blogger Biography: RoK the Reaper

September 27th & 28th

Oaks, Pennsylvania

RETRO CON 2014

Morgan Lofting
voice of
"The Baroness"

Sergeant Slaughter

Zack Hoffman
voice of
"ZARTAN"

Larry Kenney
voice of
"Lion-o"

James Rolfe
the
AVGN

Joel Hodgson
of
MST3K

Chris Doohan
of
STAR TREK
CONTINUES

Peter Newman
voice of
Tygra

200+ tables of toys & art!

VIDEO GAMES

13th MOBILE INFANTRY

MANDO MERCS

PHILLY GB's

Costume Contest!

DeLorean time machine!

Raffle Prizes!

DOCTOR WHO TARDIS

RETROCONS.COM

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Neon Genesis Evangelion cosplay photo shoot at Anime California in August.

Issue 17, Autumn • September 23-December 20, 2014

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Last season was probably the greatest that I've experiecned in a long time. I've never experienced anything like it before—unlike last year. People say that being static is not a good thing, so I took it to heart and opened new horizons. I guess you could say that the decision to cosplay as Auron from *Final Fantasy X* was the catalyst that started it all. In general, cosplaying really help me turn around in more ways than one. I've met and befriended so many wonderful, positive and excellent people in the last few months. Without them, I wouldn't be where I am now…joyous. With life and distance in the way, I surely hope that we all could get together sometime—whether at conventions, cosplay gatherings or even out in the real world. It would be totally awesome!

I haven't gone to a lot of movies last season, but I had to at least watch *Guardians of the Galaxy*. When we first heard of this movie, it became on ongoing joke in my circle. Who knew it would be such an awesome hit?! Ok, on my soft side, I had to see *A Fault in Our Stars*. Godzilla was another anticipated movie that I had to watch. Unlike all the remakes of many movies, this one was acutally pretty good. Sure there were some aspects of it we could joke about, but overall…excellent.

At the end of this summer season, I've joined some friends from work and met new friends to play an desktop role-playing game (RPG) called *World of Darkness*. It's been almost two decades since I've played a RPG. I could've done it earlier with others, but there was nobody willing nor have the "imagination" to play. I feel like I fell back into my player role. It's a great feeling when people talk about something and actually DO it. What an awesome feeling!

- Ed Gomez

Graphic Designer
Publisher-Genki Life Magazine, President–GIE

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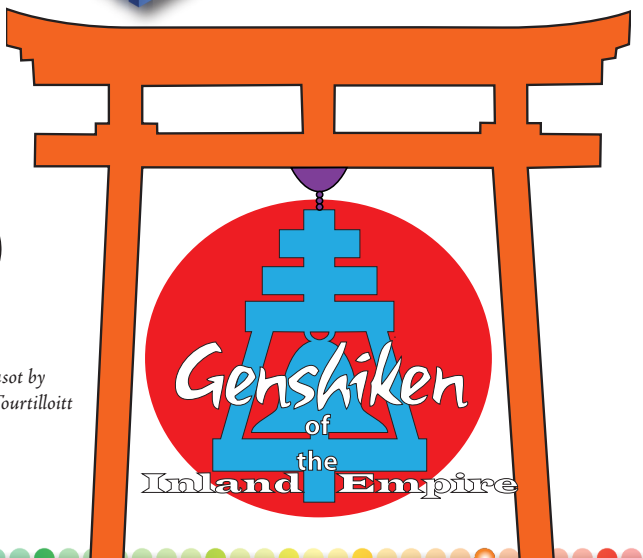
glm@studioartmix.com

GLM masot by Jennifer Tourtilloitt



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Genki Life Magazine

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We're always looking for contributors to this magazine in the fields of writing, reporting, reviewing, photography and graphic design. If you would like to contribute to this magazine, please e-mail me at:
glm@studioartmix.com
or Facebook:
www.facebook.com/GenkiLifeMag

MAN WITH A MISSION

KNOT FEST

October 25

San Manuel Amphitheater

San Bernardino California

Used without permission. GIE is not affiliated with Man With A Mission.

Tōkyō Kushu
(Tokyo Ghoul)
東京喰種-トーキョーグール

TV • July 3, 2014 to present†
Pierrot • Funimation

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tokyo_Ghoul

http://www.marv.jp/special/tokyoghoul/

http://www.funimation.com

Director: Morita, Shuhei
Writer: Mikasano, Chūji
Music: Yamada, Yutaka

Cast:
Kaneki, Ken = Hanae, Natsuki
Kirishima, Tōka = Amamiya, Sora
Nishio, Nishiki = Asanuma, Shintarō
Kamishiro, Rize = Hanazawa, Kana

†From the publication date of this issue

Ghouls are a carnivorous species that can only feed on humans and other ghouls. They are as close to humans as possible. They normally have the same physical appearance and intelligence as a human with the exception of diet, mentality and inner biology.

KEN KANEKI

NISHIKI NISHIO

TOKA KIRISHIMA

RIZE KAMISHIRO

Ghouls are a carnivorous species that can only feed on humans and other ghouls. They are as close to humans as possible. They normally have the same physical appearance and intelligence as a human with the exception of diet, mentality and inner biology. During the premier of this series, we were introduced to the discrimination between humans and ghouls. This point is used as a plot device throughout the series. For example, ghouls are prosecuted by CCG (Commission of Counter Ghouls) due to their eating habits. Another more complex theme is the definition of being human–what does it mean to be a human being? What makes you not a human being? It's debatable. Also, what makes ghouls so different from humans? Ghouls eat humans. Humans eat animals. Both consume other living organisms in cold blood to survive so why is there a lack of balance in the world *Tōkyō Ghoul* has set?

The story focuses on Ken Kaneki and Tōka Kirishima. Ken is a shy and reserved person with Hide (Hideyoshi Nagachika) being his only close friend. He usually spends most of his time reading books—mostly novels. He is extremely gentle and appears to be optimistic most of the time. Influenced by his mother and a true testament of modesty, he willingly takes blame and punishment from others so that he can be someone who doesn't hurt people but rather "the person getting hurt." However, this lack of assertiveness normally gets him bullied and taken advantage of. On the other hand we have Tōka Kirishima, a girl living a double life as a high school student and a ghoul. As a human, she is seen as a normal girl attending school with normal friends and being a cafe waitress. As a ghoul, she reveals a more reckless and ruthless personality full of hatred for CCG's investigators. This stems from an issue that occurred during her upbringing involving the CCG. During the series it was noted that she had previously looked more dangerous and cold but has somewhat softened up because of her friends and possibly Ken's influence. Throughout the series new character introductions have been made and many relationships built but what's interesting is the fact that almost all the people that interact with Ken are willing to look at the human point of view. While this can be an advantage of some sort, it can also be a huge disadvantage and can leave them very vulnerable. Throughout the series it is also indicated that humans can have a change of heart towards the ghouls and vice versa. Characters are what *Tōkyō Ghoul* seems to struggle

with, since the anime is (currently) planned to run for 12 episodes they don't leave enough room for development between characters and this damages the series heavily. When certain events occur to a character we are left with half of what we could of felt due to the lack of time given for us to grow on them or understand them.

With its gorgeous and diverse color palette, emphasis on both art quality and art style, vigorous animation *Tōkyō Ghoul*s stands proud in these areas. It is the most visually ambitious production I have seen this season, it establishes a tremendously effective and proper atmosphere for itself. However, I must stress the amount of censoring used in this anime and I know I'm not the only one bothered about this. The show uses many censoring tactics that range from over-sized black rays of light to ridiculously inverting a whole action scene. Now while I do understand it's necessary for some scenes, it's not needed for every site of blood shown. This prevents the action scenes from creating a bigger impact to the viewers which is a shame considering action is the biggest asset to *Tōkyō Ghoul*. They could of just censored it when it was airing in Japan and uncensored it on streaming sites like what Akame ga Kill has been doing.

The opening theme song "Unravel" by TK from Ling Tosite Sigure and the ending theme song "Saints" performed by People In The Box fit the shows atmosphere. The music prepares you to get a grip of what's to come but I cannot say the same with the OSTs used in episodes. Some of the OSTs seem to not match the scenes used and sometimes I don't even notice the OSTs playing.

As a person who is currently reading the manga, the anime adaptation seems to be below average at best. The anime seems to have an issue with maintaining a faithful adaptation past the second episode, I don't know why the director decided on doing this. The current arcs that are being animated would have been encountered if the director just stuck faithful to the source material. The pacing of this show jumps around from slow to extremely fast paced .This is done because the studio decided to mix a well written manga with a director who doesn't have much experience in handling a series like this…and this is the result. Now I know that I have no right to say that, but it's the truth and quite surely it's what all the manga readers think.

In my opinion, if the anime adaptation was faithful to the manga and given 24 episodes, it could of been the greatest anime to come out in the last decade. Overall, if the anime adaptation of *Tōkyō Ghoul* had been a stand-alone series under a different name it could of been a good anime but sadly it isn't. This makes the show below average or even average depending on how they decide to end it. I think this series is worth watching either online or once the Blu-Rays/DVDs come out so you can enjoy it without the censoring. I really hope for a remake of this series sometime in the future because this is a series that deserves a remake. I also highly recommend reading the manga! MoeTAW

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Sunday: $8 | Weekend: $13 | Kids 8 & Under Free

www.sac-con.com

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BRANDON MCKINNEY

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PANELS & WORKSHOPS | VIDEO GAME TOURNAMENTS | HOURLY SHOPPING SPREES

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

AUTUMN 2014

Anime Fargo
September 26-28
Best Western Fargo Doublewood Inn, Fargo, ND
www.animefargo.org

Anime Weekend Atlanta
September 26-28
Renaissance Waverly Hotel & Cobb Galleria Centre
Atlanta, GA
www.awa-con.com

Blurriecon
September 26-28, 2014
Quality Inn & Suites Conference Center
Erie, PA
www.blurriecon.com

Animaga Expo
September 27-28
Royal Exhibition Building
Carlton, VIC Australia
www.animaga.com.au

Retro Con
September 27-28
Greater Philadelphia Expo Center, Oaks, PA
retrocons.com

Senshi-Con
September 27-28
William A. Egan Civic & Convention Center
Anchorage, AK
www.senshicon.com

Unplugged Expo
September 27-28
University of Toronto, Chestnut Conference Centre
Toronto, Ontario
www.unpluggedexpo.com

Anime USA
October 3-5
Washington Marriott Wardman Park, Washington, DC
www.animeusa.org

Kentokyocon
October 3-5
Clarion Hotel Lexington
Lexington, KY
kentokyocon.com

Maneki Neko Con
October 3-5, 2014
Matteson Community Center, Matteson, IL
www.manekinekocon.org

Mizucon
October 3-5
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Miami Airport & Convention Center,
Miami, FL
www.mizucon.com

Realms Con
October 3-5
AmericanBank Center
Corpus Christi, TX
www.realmscon.com

Tomodachi Fest
October 3-5
Boise Hotel and Conference Center, Boise, ID
www.tomodachifest.com

NyanCon
October 4
Lakeland Community College
Kirtland, OH
www.nyancon.org

Kraken Con
October 4-5
Oakland Convention Center
Oakland, CA
www.krakencon.com

New York Comic Con
October 9-12
Jacob K. Javits Center
New York, NY
www.newyorkcomiccon.com

Banzaicon
October 10-12
Columbia Marriott Downtown
Columbia, SC
www.banzaicon.com

Tsubasacon
October 10-12
Big Sandy Superstore Arena
Huntington, WV
www.tsubasacon.org

Geek Girl Con
October 11-12
Washington State Conference Center, Seattle, WA
www.geekgirlcon.com

The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice.

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

AUTUMN 2014 *Continued*

Another Anime Convention
October 17-19
Radisson Hotel Manchester Downtown, Manchester, NH
www.anotheranimecon.com

San Diego Comic Fest
October 17-19
Town and Country Resort and Convention Center
San Diego, CA
www.sdcomicfest.org

Tidewater Comicon
October 18
The Virginia Beach Convention Center, Virginia Beach, VA
www.tidewatercomicon.com

Fal-Con
October 18-19
Montevallo High School
Hoover, AL
www.falconvention.net

F.A.C.T.S.
October 18-19
Flanders Expo
Ghent, Belgium
www.facts.be

Nijicon
October 18-19
DoubleTree by Hilton Philadelphia - Valley Forge
King of Prussia, PA
www.nijicon.com

Zappcon
October 18-19
Valdez Hall
Fresno, CA
www.zappcon.com

Sac-Con
October 19
Scottish Rite Center, Sacramento, CA
www.sac-con.com

Photo by T. Brillo

Aniventure
October 24-26
Sofia Event Center, Sofia, Bulgaria
www.aniventure.net/en/

Epic Con Geek Fest
October 24-26
Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Dayton, Ohio
www.epic-con-ohio.com

Flatcon
October 24-26
Interstate Center's Mini Expo Building, Bloomington, IL
www.flatcon.com

RVACon
October 24-26
Canal Club, Richmond, VA
www.rvacon.org

Santa Fe C omic Con
October 24-26
Buffalo Thunder Casino and Resort, Santa Fe, NM
www.santafecomiccon.com

SNAFU Con
October 24-26
Grand Sierra Resort, Reno, NV
www.snafucon.com

Anime Getaway in St. Louis
October 25
Gateway Center
Collinsville, IL
www.animegetaway.com/stlouis/

Mississippi Anime Invasion
October 25-26
Oxford Conference Center
Oxford, MS
www.mai-con.net

Youmacon
October 30 - November 2
Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center/Cobo Center
Detroit, MI
www.youmacon.com

Anime NebrasKon
October 31 - November 2
Ramada Plaza Omaha Hotel and Convention Center
Omaha, NE
www.animenebraskon.com

Izumicon
October 31-November 2
Cox Convention Center
Oklahoma, OK
www.izumicon.com

Meta Con
October 31 - November 2
Hyatt Regency Minneapolis
Minneapolis, MN
www.metaconvention.com

Oni-Con
October 31 - November 2
Galveston Island Convention Center, Galveston, TX
www.oni-con.net

ShadoCon
October 31 - November 2
Innisbrook, A Salamander Golf & Spa Resort, Palm Harbor, FL
www.shadocon.com

Mini Con
November 1
Quality Inn Sawgrass Conference Center, Plantation, FL
www.flminicons.com

Photo by Andy Van

Con-Jikan
November 1-2
University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM
www.con-jikan.com

WasabiCon
November 1-2
Jacksonville Marriott
Jacksonville, FL
www.wasabicon.com

Anime Blast Chattanooga
November 7-9
Chattanooga Convention Center
Chattanooga, TN
www.animeblastchattanooga.com

FANdom Con
November 7-9
Emerald Coast Convention Center
Fort Walton Beach, FL
www.fandomcon.com

Gamehole Con
November 7-9
Sheraton Madison Hotel
Madison, WI
https://www.gameholecon.com

Nekocon
November 7-9
Hampton Roads Convention
Center, Hampton, VA
www.nekocon.com

Pacific Media Expo
November 7-9
Hilton Los Angeles Airport
Los Angeles, CA
www.pacificmediaexpo.info/2014/

Haberkon
November 14-15
Embassy Suites Dallas-Frisco/
Hotel, Convention Center & Spa
Frisco, TX
www.teamhaberkorn.com/haberkon/

Lucky Con
November 14-15
The Priory Centre
Lincoln, UK
www.luckycon.co.uk

Animate! Miami
November 14-16
Miami Airport Convention
Center, Miami, FL
www.animatemiami.com

Bakuretsu Con
November 14-16
Hampton Inn Burlington
Colchester, VT
www.bakuretsucon.org

Nakamacon
November 14-16
Beachside Resort Panama City
Beach, Panama City Beach, FL
www.nakamacon.org

Hamacon Minicon
November 15
Von Braun Center
Huntsville, AL
www.hama-con.com

Auchinawa
November 19-21
Glasgow Marriott Hotel
Glasgow, UK
www.auchinawa.org.uk

Chibi-Pa
November 21-23
Sheraton Fort Lauderdale Airport
& Cruise Port Hotel, Dania, FL
www.chibipa.com/home.php

Daisho Con
November 21-23
Kalahari Resorts : Wisconsin
Dells, Wisconsin Dells, WI
www.daishocon.com

Supanova Pop Culture Expo - Adelaide
November 21-23
Adelaide Showground
Adelaide, SA Australia
www.supanova.com.au

AniMaine
November 21-24
Best Western Merry
Manor Inn
South Portland, ME
www.animaine.com

Epic ACG Fest
November 22-23
Albany Community Center
Albany, CA
www.eacgfest.org

Chicago TARDIS
November 28-30
The Westin Lombard
Yorktown Center
Lombard, IL
www.chicagotardis.com

Loscon 41
November 28-30
LAX Marriott Hotel
Los Angeles, CA
www.loscon.org/41/

Starbase Indy
November 28-30, 2014
Indianapolis Marriott East
Indianapolis, IN
www.starbaseindy.com

Supanova Pop Culture Expo - Brisbane
November 28-30
Brisbane Convention
& Exhibition Centre
Brisbane, QLD Australia
www.supanova.com.au

Photo by T. Brillo

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CONVENTION SCHEDULE

AUTUMN 2014 *Continued*

DerpyCon
December 5-7
Hyatt Morristown at Headquarters Plaza
Morristown, NJ
www.derpycon.com

Sangawa Project
December 5-7
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA
www.sangawaproject.com

Yama-Con
December 5-7
LeConte Center at Pigeon Forge
Pigeon Forge, TN
www.yamacon.org

Sukoshi Con Prime
December 6
Holiday Inn Birmingham-Airport
Birmingham, AL
www.sukoshicon.com/prime_index.html

Farragut Fest
December 6-7
Farragut Films Studio
Kingsland, GA
www.farragutfest.com

Sac-Con
December 14
Scottish Rite Center
Sacramento, CA
www.sac-con.com

Con+Alt+Delete
December 19-21
Hyatt Regency O'Hare
Rosemont, IL
www.conaltdelete.com

Ichibancon
January 1-4, 2015
Embassy Suites Concord
Concord, NC
www.ichibancon.com

Photo by Andy Van

Anime Kaiju
January 2-4, 2015
Millenium Maxwell House Nashville
Nashville, TN
www.animekaiju.com

Anime-Zap!
January 2-4, 2015
Embassy Suites East Peoria - Hotel & Riverfront Conference Center
East Peoria, IL
www.animezapcon.com

Ikkicon
January 2-4, 2015
Hilton Austin, Austin, TX
www.ikkicon.com

Kollision Con
January 2-4, 2015
Hyatt Regency O'Hare
Rosemont, IL
www.kollisioncon.com

Sac-Anime
January 2-4, 2015
Sacramento Convention Center, Sacramento, CA
www.sacanime.com

KotoriCon
January 9-10, 2015
Rowan College at Gloucester County, Sewell, NJ
www.rcgc.edu/Kotoricon/Pages/default.aspx

Animé Los Angeles
January 9-11, 2015
Los Angeles Airport Marriott
Los Angeles, CA
www.animelosangeles.org

Sukoshi Con: PokéCon
January 9-11, 2015
Crowne Plaza Airport Expo Center, Louisville, KY
www.sukoshicon.com/pokecon_news.html

Digi-Con
January 11-12, 2015
Doncaster Racecourse
Doncaster, UK
www.digi-con.co.uk

AOD
January 31 - February 1
Hyatt Regency Hotel San Francisco Airport, San Francisco, CA
www.aodsf.org

MIKU EXPO
HATSUNE MIKU EXPO 2014
初音ミク
HATSUNE MIKU
L.A. Live Concert Oct 11-12
Nokia Theater
Hatsune Miku Halloween Party
@ Los Angeles Center Studios
N.Y. Live Concert Oct 17-18
Hammerstein Ballroom
Hatsune Miku Art Exhibition
Oct 9-19 @ Wallplay

Who's That Seiyū

Nakamura, Yuichi
中村 悠一

DOB: **February 20, 1980**
Fukuyama-shi, Hiroshima-ken

Blood Type: **B**

Current Roles…

Nozaki, Umetarō
Gekkan Shōjo Nozaki-kun

Henry
Kenzen Robo Daimidaler

Kinoshita, Tōkichirō
Nobunaga Concerto

Yomo, Renji
Tōkyō Ghoul

Ōhashi, Ayaka
大橋 彩香

DOB: **September 13, 1994**
Tōkyō

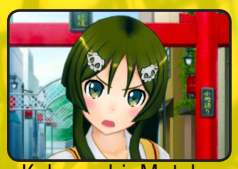
Blood Type: **A**

Current Roles…

Sonokawa, Momoka
Sabagebu!

Kurome
Akame ga Kill!

Rei
Hamatora



Kobayashi, Matcha
Go! Go! 575

Misawa, Sachika
三澤 紗千香

DOB: **January 13, 1993**
Yamanashi

Blood Type: **O**

Current Roles…

Kohinata, Yukari
Locodol

Azuma, Minami
Tōkyō ESP

Rayet Areash
Aldnoah.Zero

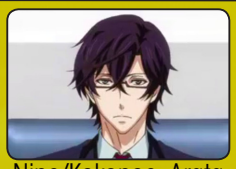
Namatame, Chitaru
Akuma no Riddle

Ishikawa, Kaito
石川 界人

DOB: **October 13, 1993**
Tōkyō

Blood Type: **AB**

Current Roles…



Nine/Kokonoe, Arata
Zankyō no Terror

Ignacio Axis
Toaru Hikūshi e no Koiuta

Kageyama, Tobio
Haikyū!!

Logix Fiscario
Atelier Escha & Logy

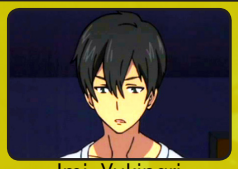
Shimazaki, Nobunaga
島﨑 信長

DOB: **December 6, 1988**
Miyagi Prefecture

Blood Type: **A**

Current Roles…

Nanase, Haruka
Free! Eternal Summer



Imi, Yukinari
Glasslip

Tarjim Vasily
Buddy Complex

Hasegawa, Utsutsu
Pupa

Kana, Hanazawa
花澤香菜

DOB: **February 25, 1989**
Tōkyō

Blood Type: **AB**

Current Roles…

Marie
Persona 4: Golden

Saegusa, Mayumi
Mahōka Kōkō no Rettōsei

Kamishiro, Rize
Tōkyō Ghoul

Seryu Ubiquitous
Akame ga Kill

# of Summer 2014

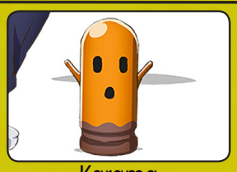
Taketatsu, Ayana
竹達 彩奈

DOB: **June 6, 1989**
Saitama

Blood Type: **O**

Current Roles…

Momoko
Momo Kyun Sword



Karama
Rokujōma no Shinryakusha!?

Ariel Albus
Toaru Hikūshi e no Koiuta

Tentō, Moyo
Wizard Barristers

Ōsaka, Ryōta
良太 逢坂

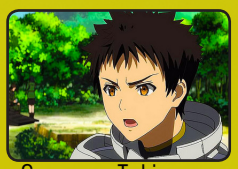
DOB: **August 2, 1986**
Tokushima

Blood Type: **O**

Current Roles…

Okikura, Kakeru
Glasslip

Kazama, Kakeru
Shōnen Hollywood



Susumu, Tokimune
Shirogane no Ishi Argevollen

Nice
Re:Hamatora

Ono, Daisuke
小野 大輔

DOB: **May 4, 1978**
Kōchi

Blood Type: **O**

Current Roles…

Handa, Seishū
Barakamon

Sebastian Michaelis
Kuroshitsuji: Book of Circus

Maeno, Mitsuya
Gekkan Shōjo Nozaki-kun?

Daikoku
Noragami

Taniyama, Kishō
谷山 紀章

DOB: **August 11, 1975**
Ube, Yamaguchi

Blood Type: **B**

Current Roles…

Sakamoto, Ryōma
Bakumatsu Rock

Hanazon, Kaoru
No-Rin

Shinomiya, Natsuki
Uta no Prince-sama

Jean Kirschtein
Shingeki no Kyojin

Uchida, Maaya
内田 真礼

DOB: **December 27, 1989**
Tōkyō

Blood Type: **A**

Current Roles…

Yoshioka, Futaba
Ao Haru Ride

Kōmi, Haruka
Rail Wars!

Yamai, Kaguya
Date A Live II

Takanashi, Rikka
Chūnibyō

Sawashiro, Miyuki
沢城 みゆき

DOB: **June 2, 1985**
Tōkyō

Blood Type: **O**

Current Roles…

Sinon/Asada, Shino
Sword Art Online II

Hatsuse, Izuna
No Game No Life

Bishamon
Noragami

Milla Maxwell
Tales of Xillia

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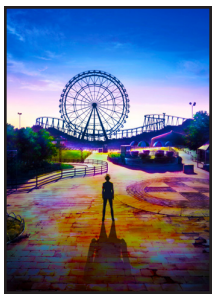
ANIME SCHEDULE 2014 AUTUMN



Amagi Brilliant Park
甘城ブリリアントパーク

Kyoto Animation • October 2 • TBS
www.tbs.co.jp/anime/amaburi/ • youtu.be/WGMLDSTkvDo
Seiya Kanie, self proclaimed high school student genius with looks, intellect and athletic ability. On a Sunday, a mysterious transfer student who carries a musket gun takes him to an old and deserted amusement park, Amagi Brilliant Park. He is told that if the park can't attract 100,000 visitors in the next two weeks, it will be closed immediately. And thus the business comedy, Amagi Brilliant Park, begins!

Danna ga Nani wo Itteiru ka Wakaranai Ken (I Can't Understand What My Husband is Saying)
旦那が何を言っているかわからない件

Dream Creation • October 2 • Teletama
www.dreamcreation.co.jp/danna/ • youtu.be/UZhI7a2j9mk
The daily life of an earnest, hardworking office lady named Kaoru and her otaku husband, who is totally immersed in a certain huge net bulletin board system.

Denki-gai no Honya-san (Electric Town Bookstore)
デンキ街の本屋さん

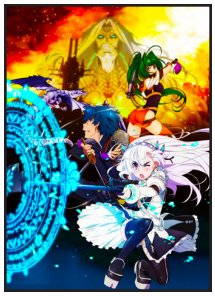
Shin-Ei • October 2 • NA
umanohone.jp • youtu.be/meLiPx5WiKo
Umio is a shy kid who just started his part-time job at a manga store smack dab in the middle of the city. But his lifestyle isn't as glamorous as the neon lights that illuminate the city. Umio's closest friends are his co-workers who are all unique characters, to say the least, and although they're nice people, they have their quirks. They are a tight knit group of friends, have nicknames for each other and spend their weekends inside, sheltered from the extravagant scene happening on the outside.

Gundam: Reconguista in G
ガンダム: Gのレコンギスタ

Sunrise • October 2 • MBS
www.g-reco.net • youtu.be/I6ByoabdSRk
Beruri Zenamu is in the middle of training for the Capital Guard when the tower he's stationed at is attacked by a G-Serufu mobile suit. He joins the battle in the maintenance mobile suit Rekuten and luckily captures the mobile suit. the G-Serufu is piloted by a space pirate girl named Aiida Reihanton. A strange feeling of deja-vu came over Beruri for the pilot and the G-Serufu, though he has never seen it before.

Air dates and info are subject to change without notice. Some shows could appear on other channels on different times and days.

ANIME SCHEDULE 2014 AUTUMN



Hitsugi no Chaika: Avenging Battle (Chaika – The Coffin Princess: Avenging Battle)

棺姫のチャイカ: AVENGING BATTLE

Bones ✦ October 2 ✦ Tokyo MX
chaika-anime.jp ✦ youtu.be/coQHwcwW8Ao
Tōru Acura is a 20-year-old retired soldier meandering through life now that the war has ended. He encounters Chaika Trabant, a 14-year-old sorceress carrying a coffin, and follows her in hopes of finding meaning to his life again. The two travel with Tōru's adopted sister, Akari, the employed member of the group and thus Tōru's source of income. Second season of *Hitsugi no Chaika*.

Idol Katsudō! 3 (Idol Activity! 3)

アイドルカツドウ 3

Sunrise ✦ October 2 ✦ TV Tokyo
www.aikatsu.net
Starlight Academy is facing a predicament thanks to the rise of the new rival idol training school, Dream Academy. The Dream Academy's "cool beauty" Seira Otoshiro is a major new idol with talent in rock music and perfect pitch, while Kii Saekusa is a genius who enrolls in the academy's producer course. The two academies face off for the honor of training the top idol. Third season of Aikatsu!.

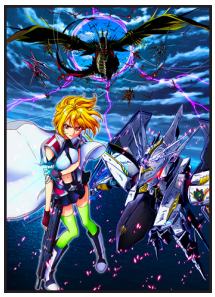
Garo: Honō no Kokuin (Garo: The Carved Seal of Flames)

牙狼〈GARO〉-炎の刻印-

MAPPA ✦ October 3 ✦ TV Tokyo
garo-project.jp/ANIME/ ✦ youtu.be/CYB_gmSMurs
A dark story that revolves around humans that have the job of "Makai Knights," people who fight against demonic beings called Horrors. A Makai Knight, Kōga Saejima, tries to saves Kaoru from death after being infected by a demon's blood. Kōga spares Kaoru, because those tainted are to be kill immediately, and tries to find a way to purify her before her remaining time runs out.

Selector Spread WIXOSS

J.C.Staff ✦ October 3 ✦ Tokyo MX
selector-wixoss.com ✦ youtu.be/xpy8joNsPcg
The series follow a group of girls who are drawn into a dangerous, popular trading card game in which players battle against each other with fighters known as LRIG. Ruko Kominato, who receives a WIXOSS deck from her brother, discovers that her LRIG, which she names Tama, can speak. She soon learns that she has been chosen as a Selector—girls who must battle against other Selectors. Second season.



Cross Ange: Tenshi to Ryū no Rondo (Cross Ange: Rondo of Angels and Dragons)

クロスアンジュ 天使と竜の輪舞

Sunrise ✦ October 4 ✦ Tokyo MX
crossange.com ✦ youtu.be/_aQF5kye0kg
Due to humanity obtaining a great amount pg data technology, the human race is able to subjugate all wars, starvation, pollution and other problems on Earth by using its power—similar to magic. Earth has obtained the utopia of complete peace and no wants. First princess of the Misurugi Empire, Angelize. As with everyone else, she also had no wants or worries. One fateful meeting with a group of Norma girls who know nothing but battle. The story of a single girl's fortitude starts now.

SEASON 2

Fate/stay night

ufotable • October 4 • Tokyo MX
www.fate-sn.com • youtu.be/spseKv7jtmY
About an amateur mechanic, Shirō Emiya, who attends a school named Homurahara Gakuen in Fuyuki City, Japan. The story primarily takes place at and around Shirō Emiya's house, which acts as their base location in the Holy Grail War. Outside of Shirō's house, frequented locations include the Homurahara Gakuen high school and the Ryūdōji Temple.

Log Horizon 2
ログ・ホライズン 2

Satelight • October 4 • NHK-E
www9.nhk.or.jp/anime/loghorizon/
The story begins when 30,000 Japanese gamers are trapped in the fantasy online game world Elder Tale. What was once a sword-and-sorcery world is now the real world. The main lead Shiroe attempts to survive with his old friend Naotsugu and the beautiful assassin Akatsuki. The second season of *Log Horizon*.

Magic Kaitō 1412
まじっく快斗1412

A-1 Pictures • October 4 • YTV, Nippon TV
www.ytv.co.jp/magickaito/
Kaitō Kuroba is a normal teenage student. When his father dies under mysterious circumstances, he is made aware of his father's secret identity—a famous international criminal known as "International Criminal 1412: the Phantom Thief." He was murdered by a mysterious organization for refusing to aid them in retrieving the "Pandora Gem," a mystical stone said to shed a "tear" during the passing of a particular comet. The consumption of which bestows immortality.

Air dates and info are subject to change without notice. Some shows could appear on other channels on different times and days.

ANIME SCHEDULE 2014 AUTUMN

Madan no Ō to Vanadis

魔弾の王と戦姫

Satelight ✦ October 4 ✦ AT-X
www.madan-anime.jp
Ellenora Viltaria, one of the seven Vanadis of Zhcted, leads the war into Brune. There are actually seven Vanadis, named like this because they each received a powerful weapon from the dragon, to reign over seven territories, each possessing their own. The power of the Vanadis causes dread and fear toward their enemies.

Ushinawareta Mirai wo Motomete (In Search of Lost Future)

失われた未来を求めて

feel. ✦ October 4 ✦ AT-X
ushinawareta-mirai.com
The story takes place during the final school festival at Uchihama Gakuen. All the club leaders decide to give it their all to make this the best school festival. Sō is a member of the astronomy club. One day, he stays at school late into the evening. The building shakes. He runs up the stairs to where the shaking seems to have centered and encounters a mysterious naked girl, whom at first appears to know him. The next day, this girl, Yui, seeks out the astronomy club to join.

Grisaia no Kajitsu

グリザイアの果実 -LE FRUIT DE LA GRISAIA-

8bit ✦ October 5 ✦ AT-X
www.grisaia-anime.com ✦ youtu.be/da0g43jtT2w
Mihama Academy is a closed learning environment established to nurture students. It is presently home to five female students, all with their own reasons for "enrollment." Each girl has established a routine obliging of her current situation; life moves at an idle, yet accommodating pace within the walls of Mihama. With the arrival of the institute's first male student, Kazami Yūji, the students at Mihama begin to fall out of step with their predetermined rhythms.

SEASON *Continued*

Gugure! Kokkuri-san
繰繰れ！コックリさ

TMS Entertainment ✦ October 5 ✦ TV Tokyo
www.gugukoku.com ✦ youtu.be/d1_QEl12Qc8
Kohina ends up summoning a Kokkuri-san, a low-ranking ghost. The Kokkuri-san she calls turns out to be a white-haired handsome, young man. At first he had intended to merely haunt her, but soon he becomes worried about her terrible eating habit of cup ramen for every meal. He later decides to haunt her in order to protect her.

Nanatsu no Taizai (The Seven Deadly Sins)
七つの大祭

A-1 Pictures ✦ October 5 ✦ MBS, TBS
www.7-taizai.net ✦ youtu.be/QAJZIk2OrCY
"Seven Deadly Sins" is a group of evil knights who conspired to overthrow the kingdom of Britannia. They were supposively eradicated by the Holy Knights, although some claim that they're still live. Ten years later, the Holy Knights have staged a coup d'état and assassinated the king, becoming the new, tyrannical rulers of the kingdom.

Ōkami Shōjo to Kuro Ōji
オオカミ少女と黒王子

TYO Animations ✦ October 5 ✦ Tokyo MX
www.ookamishojo-anime.jp ✦ youtu.be/tZJPQfq2UNk
About Erika Shinohara, a vain 16-year-old girl who tells her friends about her romantic exploits, but she actually has no boyfriend. She claims that a handsome boy in a candid photo is her boyfriend, but it turns out that boy is a schoolmate named Kyōya Sata. She has no choice but to make him her fake boyfriend. Unfortunately, Sata may look like a sweet person, but he is actually an ultra-black-hearted sadist. Sata takes advantage of Erika's weakness and treats her like his dog.

Sora no Method
天体のメソッド

Studio 3Hz ✦ October 5 ✦ Tokyo MX
sora-no-method.jp ✦ youtu.be/tgChkk7AqCY
A story by Kanon writer Naoki Hisya. It begins one winter day. A miracle occurred that changed the landscape of a town forever…or has it? A huge, multi-colored, disc-shaped object loomed in the skies over this town. Many claimed that it has always been there. Or was it a wish of a few girls that made this happen?

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ANIME SCHEDULE 2014 AUTUMN

World Trigger
ワールドトリガー

Toei Animation • October 5 • TV Asahi
www.toei-anim.co.jp/tv/wt/ • youtu.be/2oui7JLlBpk
A gate to another dimension has burst open and from it, emerges a gigantic invincible creatures that threaten all of humanity. Earth's only defense is a mysterious group of warriors who have co-opted the alien technology in order to fight back!

Ai Tenchi Muyō!
愛・天地無用!

AIC PLUS+ • October 6 • Tokyo MX
www.ai-tenchi.jp/index.html
Ai: Tenchi Muyō! is only going to be a collection of five minute shorts, specifically fifty of them that takes place in Okayama prefecture where *Tenchi Muyō! Ryo-ohki* takes place. "Tenchi is the teacher for these high school girls!? Washu has caused one of the worlds largest predicaments! In order to save the world from danger Tenchi must discreetly disguise himself as a student teacher at the all girls love high school. Naturally, Tenchi getting this new job will cause him a lot of problems…."

Inō-Battle wa Nichijō-kei no Naka de (Inō-Battle in the Usually Daze)
異能バトルは日常系のなかで

Trigger • October 6 • TV Tokyo
inou-anime.com • youtu.be/fIEeVqJjjIQ
The five members of the literature club awakened with extraordinary powers half a year ago. Their normal daily routine continued. No secret organizations bent on world destruction, no super-powered wars, no brave heroes or demon kings. However, the members still look forward to the possibilities of adventure, and continued to believe that with each day, they were getting ever closer to those days of fantasy. Their days of romantic comedy and battles with extraordinary powers begin!

Kaitō Joker (Mysterious Joker)
怪盗ジョーカー

Shin-Ei • October 6 • Tokyo MX
s.mxtv.jp/joker/ • s.mxtv.jp/joker/movie.php
There are no items that cannot be stolen by Joker, The Mysterious Thief. With his magic tricks, Joker goes around the world stealing treasure! Special agents to the most sophisticated equipment have been deployed to subdue him. Is there anything can stop the exploits of The Mysterious Thief?

Orenchi no Furo Jijō (The Circumstances in My Home's Bathtub)
オレん家のフロ事情

Asahi Production • October 6 • BS11
www.orefuro.jp • youtu.be/UwNPQwkSSvY
Tatsumi is a high school boy who lives by himself. A devastatingly handsome merman named Wakasa moves into the bathtub in Tatsumi's home. Wakasa is a bit self-centered but cute, while Tatsumi is cool but a busybody. This is a story that takes a peek into their lives together.

SEASON *Continued*

Shingeki no Bahamut: Genesis (Rage of Bahamut: Genesis)

神撃のバハムート GENESIS

MAPPA • October 6 • Tokyo MX
shingekinobahamut-genesis.jp • youtu.be/NyalqGh5rvk
Mistarcia is a magical world where humans, gods and demons mix together. In the past, the black-and-silver winged Bahamut has threatened to destroy the land; but humans, gods and demons fought together and seal its power. The key to that seal was split in two, one to the gods and to demons so that they would never be united and Bahamut never released. Now, two thousand years later, the world is in an era of peace—until the day a human woman steals the gods' half of the key.

Yowamushi Pedal: Grand Road

弱虫ペダル GRANDE ROAD

TMS Entertainment • October 6 • TV Tokyo
yowapeda.com
Otaku Sakamichi Onoda has just entered high school and plans to join the anime club. Fellow freshman Shunsuke Imaizumi and bicyclist, while training, notices Onoda riding his mamchari up a steep road. Freshman and road racing cyclist, Naruko Shokichi visits Akihabara to get some *Gundam* plastic models for his younger brothers and meets Onoda. Later on, both Naruko and Imaizumi try to convince him to join the bicycle racing club, but will he? Second season.

Akatsuki no Yona (Yona of the Dawn)

暁のヨナ

Studio Pierrot • October 7 • AT-X
www.marv.jp/special/yona/ • youtu.be/Sb5QStlHuHQ
Yona is the sole princess of the kingdom. She has the hottest cousin crush, Soo-won. But her nearly perfect world quickly shatters as the man she loves, Soo-won, murders her father and the path to his ascension to the throne is assured. Son Hak escapes with Yona and leads a life on the run from that point on.

Trinity Seven: 7-nin no Masho Tsukai

トリニティセブン 7人の魔書使い

Seven Arcs • October 7 • TV Tokyo
trinity-7.com
Everyday is a normal day in the small town where Kasuga Arata lives. However, everything changed on the day of the Black Sun, and following it, a magician appears before him. The Black Sun caused the Breakdown Phenomenon which destroyed the town where he lives. Because of this, his normal life was artificially reconstructed by a Grimoire that his childhood friend had left. Just what is the purpose of the magician coming to the town? What will he do with the Grimoire's keepsake?

Daitoshokan no Hitsujikai (Large Library's Shepherd)

大図書館の羊飼い

Hoods Entertainment • October 8 • AT-X
www.daito-anime.com • youtu.be/CPRMH7bapwY
Kyōtarō wanted to read all the magic books, but they were all in the magic library. Someone told him that to get there, he must be kind to everyone and bring happiness to their hearts. He received a bookmark, which was his entrance ticket to the magic library. One day while heading to school, he received a text from the "shepherd" (hitsujikai) telling him that his fate was going to change.

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ANIME SCHEDULE 2014 AUTUMN

Gundam Build Fighters Try
ガンダムビルドファイターズトライ

Sunrise ✦ October 8 ✦ TV Tokyo
gundam-bf.net ✦ youtu.be/XKMwhn7hFhc
The story is set in the near future when GunPla Battles, competitions that pit Gundam plastic models against each other, have become popular worldwide in the "Second GunPla Boom." Sei Iori is talented at building GunPla, but inexperienced in the GunPla Battles. He encounters a mysterious boy named Reiji, who happens to be an accomplished Gundam Fighter. Together, they strive for the GunPla Battle world championships. Second season of *Gundam Build Fighters*.

Hi☆sCoool! SeHa Girls
ちきう☆防衛隊！ セハガール

TMS Entertainment ✦ October 8 ✦ Animax
shg.sega.jp/anime.html ✦ youtu.be/nWbuw-BxF2A
The story of the anime will revolve around [personified] Dreamcast, Sega Saturn and Mega Drive, who have just enrolled in SeHaGaga Academy at Tōkyō's Haneda Ōtorii station. They are given an assignment needed to graduate by a suspicious teacher; and to clear this assignment, the girls need to enter the world of Sega games. The girls must try their best to graduate without incident.

Kiseijū (Parasyte)
寄生獣

Madhouse ✦ October 8 ✦ Nippon TV
www.kiseiju.jp ✦ youtu.be/5hHXtiIm6ug
Parasitic alien creatures who must invade—and take control of—a human host to survive. Once they have infected their victims, they can assume any deadly form they choose. Most have chosen to conceal their lethal purpose behind ordinary human faces. So no one knows their secret—except an ordinary high school student. Shin is battling for control of his own body against an alien parasite, but can he find a way to warn humanity of the horrors to come?

Shirobako

P.A. Works ✦ October 8 ✦ Tokyo MX
www.shirobako-anime.com ✦ youtu.be/2ZR6fCnPcvA
Shirobako focuses on five struggling girls and puts a spotlight on the anime industry. Even among anime fans, a topic of constant popularity is the inner workings of the anime industry, and it seems this anime will show a portion of what the industry is really like.

Psycho-Pass 2
サイコパス 2

Production I.G ✦ October 9 ✦ Fuji TV
psycho-pass.com/index.html ✦ youtu.be/z8aKDo2DVmw
In the near future, when it is possible to instantaneously measure and quantify a person's state of mind and personality. This information is recorded and processed, and the term "psycho-pass" refers to a standard used to measure an individual's being. The story centers around the "enforcement officer" Shinya Kōgami, who is tasked with managing crime in such a world. Second season.

SEASON *Continued*

Air dates an ge without notice. Some shows could appear o channe days.

ANIME SCHEDULE 2014 AUTUMN

Shigatsu wa Kimi no Uso (April Is Your Lie)

四月は君の嘘

A-1 Pictures • October 9 • Fuji TV
www.kimiuso.jp • youtu.be/KpQo_gZbaCM
Kōsei Arima is a piano prodigy. After his instructor mother passed away, had a mental breakdown while performing a recital. He no longer is able to hear the sound of his piano, though his hearing was perfectly fine. He was content at living out his life with his good friends Tsubaki and Watari until, one day, Kaori changed everything. She helps Kōsei return to the music world and show that it should be free and mold breaking unlike the structured and rigid style Kosei was used to.

Donten ni Warau (Cloudy Laugh)

曇天に笑う

Doga Kobo • October 2014 • Nippon TV
www.dontenniwarau.com
In the year Meiji 11, carrying swords was forbidden by the government and samurai were slowly fading away. There were plenty that didn't like those changes taking place in Japan and inevitably the crime rates increased. Japan's only resolve was an inescapable lake prison. While the prison had no other way to access it but only through water, the 3 boys of the Kumo family were assigned to transport the criminals to their new "home." Although…is that the only thing they were doing…?

SEASON *Continued*

Ore, Twintail ni Narimasu. (I Will Become a Twintail)

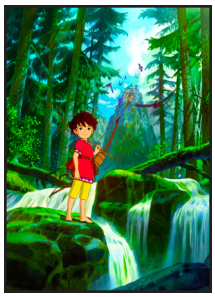
俺、ツインテールになります。

Production IMS ✦ October 9 ✦ TBS
www.tbs.co.jp/anime/ore_twi/ ✦ youtu.be/dDF_CbsPX6g
Mitsuka Sōji is a first-year high school student who greatly loves the "twintails" hairstyle. One day a beautiful girl, Thuearle, who comes from another world suddenly appeared in front of him. She gives him the power to transform into the twintails warrior, TailRed. Now Sōji, with the help of his childhood friend Tsube Aika, who can becomes the twintails warrior TailBlue, fight in order to protect the peace on earth.

BonjourĐ Koiaji Pâtisserie

Bonjour♪恋味パティスリー

Silver Link, Connect ✦ October 11 ✦ niconico
www.bonkoi.com ✦ www.nicovideo.jp/watch/1411035366
About Sayuri Haruno, a young woman that goes to the elite confectionery school, Fleurir, on a scholarship. While there to follow her dream to open a pastry shop, she ends up meeting and dealing with a number of rather charming young men.



Sanzoku no Musume Ronja (Ronia the Robber's Daughter)

山賊の娘ローニャ

Studio Ghibli ✦ October 11 ✦ NHK-BS
www9.nhk.or.jp/anime/ronja/ ✦ youtu.be/BsYWw0AzMAs
The story is about a girl named Ronja who is the daughter of a chief of a tribe of bandits and lives in a huge castle in the forest with the bandits. Ronja encounters mystical creatures, makes friends with another young child like herself and experiences life in the forest.

Girlfriend (Kari) (Girlfriend BETA)

ガールフレンド（仮）

Silver Link ✦ October 12 ✦ TV Tokyo
girlfriend-kari-anime.jp ✦ youtu.be/fS29q-Fcbo4
An anime based on a dating simulator of the same name. Relationship progress by going out on dates with over 100 different potential virtual girlfriends. Events include club activities, school class events to solicit romance and increase intimacy with female students.

Mushishi: Zoku-Shō 2

蟲師 続章2

Artland ✦ October 18 ✦ Tokyo MX
www.mushishi-anime.com
The story features ubiquitous creatures called Mushi. Due to their ethereal nature most humans are incapable of perceiving Mushi and are oblivious to their existence, but there are a few who possess the ability to see and interact with Mushi. One such person is Ginko, the main character of the series. He employs himself as a Mushi master, traveling from place to place to research Mushi and aid people suffering from problems caused by them. Second season.

aod

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Artwork: Richard Jao

Tokusatsu Spirit LIVES!

Visual Effects on a Budget

CAPTAIN FUTURE 2014

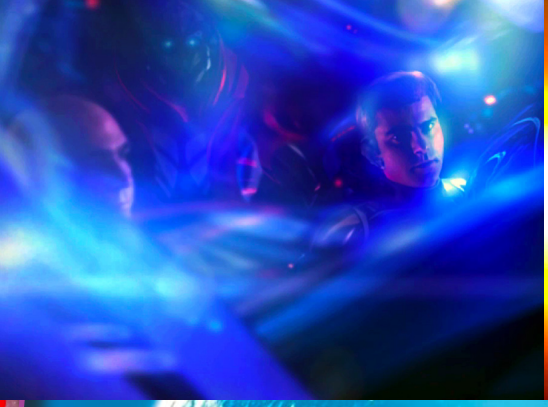
CAPTAIN FUTURE FAN FILM TEASER 2014 (PILOT EPISODE OPENING CREDITS - WEB TV SERIES)

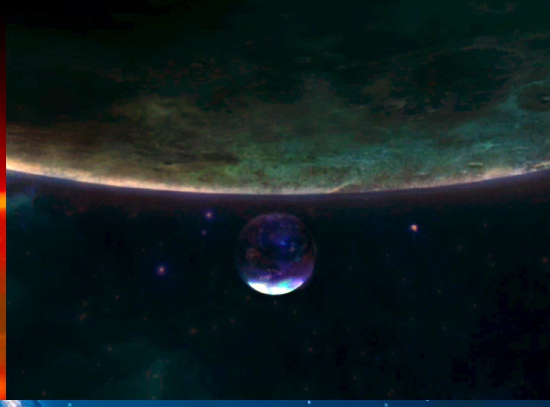
As an admirer of classic anime and mangas, I have just completed a project called *Captain Future* (live-action anime) inspired by the science fiction classic created by Edmond Hamilton and the Japanese anime from the 70's.

The main character is Curtis Newton, a brilliant scientist and adventurer who roams the solar system solving problems, righting wrongs, and vanquishing futuristic super-villains. The hero has had many incarnations and different features depending on the various artist's impressions. My project takes places five years after the events described in the novels and the anime.

Following in the footsteps of my favorite tokusatsu (live-action) series *Gavan* and *Kamen Rider*, this project was shot using a mini-DV camera in a classroom located at Blaise Pascal High School in New Caledonia. The project had a budget of €750.

Pascal Refloch, webmaster of the *Captain Future* fan site, compiled a substantial amount of data on the





character itself and it's diverse origin. Much to my surprise, I found out that Captain Future had it's roots in America and appeared for the first time in pulp comics and then later in science fiction novels.

In the 70s, Toei Animation adapted the novels in the form of anime which was broadcast in Europe as well as America.

True Tokusatsu Spirit

We wanted to make the costumes and props in tokusatsu style and the physical armor was built for that purpose. Sculptor Abel Lasserre who plays the character Oto, previously built a *Star Wars* Boba Fett armor costume and thus was perfect for creating the *Captain Future* suit. Abel is an English teacher who also shaved his head for the role in this film.

In order to learn how we could create our own *Captain Future* armor, we studied various Japanese series including *Uchū Kara no Message: Ginga Taisen* (released as *San Ku Kaï* in New Caledonia) as well as *Uchū Keiji Gavan* (*X-OR*). And during my travels, I also brought back storybooks from *Kamen Rider Φ's* at the Kinokuniya Bookstores.

But we soon realized that we faced the same constraints as all the other prop makers. The body armor become very restricted for the actors in terms of their mobility once the armor was worn. To alleviate this, we took a diving suit, some glossy cardboard and strips of leather that would simulate the armor and then glued it together with sticky tape and clips. A round plastic container was used to simulate the torso light.

Our tailor, Marie-Thérese, used her experience from making cosplay costumes for her daughters and used crimson cloth and leather (cut out from her couch!) to make one of the costumes for the android Oto.

David's class at the Digital Animation and Visual Effects School in Orlando, Florida.

CAPTAIN FUTURE VFX 2014

ORGANIC VISUAL EFFECTS

The project is all produced using 2D compositing techniques, following director Kazuaki Kirya's footsteps (*Casshern, Goemon*) where anime and live-action collide (no 3D has been involved). This is not a remake or direct adaptation from the novel, but is a live-action sequel that takes place five years after the novels and the classic anime.

Here are some creative tricks which may be of interest to your readers. While on a tiny budget of $900 (from my pocket), I had to resort to various tricks in order to create different worlds. Director George Lucas used potatoes for the asteroids in the *Empire Strikes Back* and salt for the waterfalls in *The Phantom Menace*, so why couldn't we use similar ideas? Thus, most elements used in this reel are composites made of food!

Here are some examples that we used:

- The planet is made of an ice cream scoop.
- The lunar landscape—headquarters of Captain Future—is comprised of homemade crêpes and desaturated.
- The alien creatures are made of many edible items, including egg rolls, pizzas, chicken tandoori, eggs and pepperoni.
- The look of the hyperspace was made from stretched lettuce (which was radial blurred), while the asteroids were actually home made chicken nuggets.

Alain Welhsbach, a friend and insect photographer, gave me some his pictures which were then used for Princess Inana's armor. Pieces of fishing reels were also used to create the parts of the Captain's armor and weapons.

Captain Future has already been selected to be screened at several events worldwide, including:

- Tri-Cities International Fantastic Film 2014 Festival (Washington DC)
- Gameplay 2014 (Belgium)
- StarGeek Universe 2 (Lyon)
- Shore Leaves 2014 (Baltimore)
- Le Salon de Geeks (2014)
- Salon du Jouet 2014 (Basillac)
- Fed con 2014 (Allemagne) presented by German journalist Robert Vogel
- Annecy Off 2014
- Manga Dax 2014 (France)
- Detcon 1 (Michigan)
- Spocon SF & F 2014 (Washington)
- Malta Comicon (2014)

I am also working on a live-action version of *Mobile Armored Strike Kommand* (*M.A.S.K.*). Principal photography ended in February 2012 and the project is slated for a December 2016 release. Here are some of the concept art for M.A.S.K. vehicles. ✤ Francis Greenaway and Bryan K. Brown

David Guivant was born on the South Pacific island of New Caledonia. He has travelled abroad to study visual arts at the Lasalle SIA College of Arts, Singapore and the Griffith University in Australia. Upon returning to his home, David worked as a freelance graphic designer and was employed for several years as a drawing lecturer at several New Caledonian High Schools.

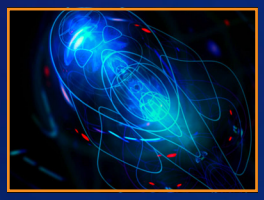
David's fascination with film led him to create a comedy short entitled *George Lucas: Legend of The Force* which paid homage to the directors George Lucas and Steven Spielberg. Lucasfilm France selected his short for screening at the Grand Rex Theatre in Paris as part of the Star Wars Reunion 2005. *George Lucas: Legend of The Force* was also honored at several European conventions as well as Metz and Melbourne for the Force IV event.

David headed a special event at The Singapore Science Center's "The Art of Star Wars Exhibition." Here he showcased his short films and discussed his other projects including *Prime of the Jedi* a sequel to the *Star Wars* trilogy involving the Solo twins. In 2006, he directed and created the visual effects for a live action pilot called the *Invincible Iron Man* TV show, based on the Marvel comics' famous superhero. This was followed with the live-action anime *Captain Future*, based on the American pulp classic comic books.

He recently gained his certification from The Digital Animation and Visual Effects School at Universal Studios, Orlando, Florida. He worked on *The Solo Adventures*, a *Star Wars*-inspired student film which featured Han Solo and Chewbacca. This animated short won Best Fan Animated Short Film at the Star Wars Celebration V in Orlando by director George Lucas who was the judge at the event.

David has also worked as pre-production artist on *ANTHRO* by director Aristomenis Tsirbas (*Mechwarrior and Battle for Terra*)

After teaching visual effects and drawing in Singapore, David then completed a course in compositing at Escape Studios, London. Post-production is now beginning on his latest project, a live adaptation of the 1980's hit cartoon series *Mobile • Armored • Strike • Kommand* (*M.A.S.K*) as well as seeking employment in the visual effects and motion pictures industries. ❖



Captain Future TV Show (Pilot Episode - Director — Conceptual Artist and VFX)

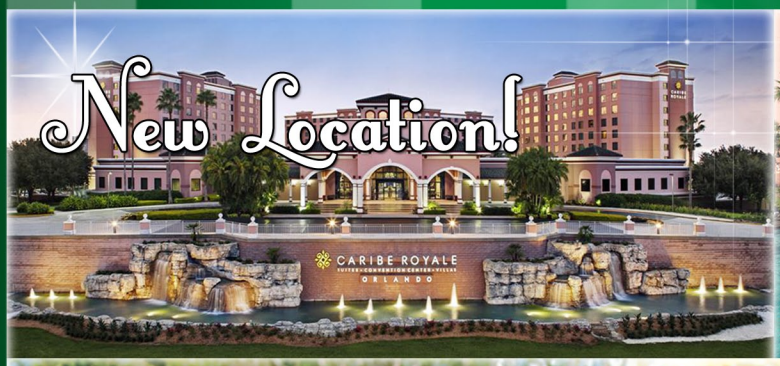
Star Wars the Solo Adventures (Part of VFX crew: Modeling, Animation, texturing)

ANTHRO (Conceptual work for Head up Display)

Invincible Iron Man TV Show (2D Frame by Frame Animation - Director and VFX)

Holiday Matsuri

DECEMBER 12-14, 2014 **CARIBE ROYALE ORLANDO**



J. Michael Tatum

Visit

HolidayMatsuri.com

for more!

Matthew Mercer

MANGA RELEASES

SUMMER 2014

D-Frag, Vol. 2
Tomoya Haruno
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
September 23

Dance in the Vampire Bund: The Memories of Sledge Hammer, Vol. 3
Nozomu Tamaki
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
September 23

Escape From Grace, Vol. 1††
Ponkotsu-works
Project-H, LLC
September 23

Fetishisms: Gone Wild††
Takumi Adachi
Project-H, LLC
September 23

Girls Und Panzer, Vol. 2
Girls Und Panzer Projekt, Ryōichi Saitaniya
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
September 23

GKGT - GuKeGuTe††
Ryōzō
Project-H, LLC
September 23

I Am Alice: Body Swap in Wonderland, Vol. 1
Ayumi Kanō
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
September 23

Saori Takebe, Miho Nishizumi, Hana Isuzu, Mako Reizei, Yukari Akiyama — GIRLS und PANZER

The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice. †Yaoi and ††hentai titles for mature audiences 18+.

MANGA RELEASES

SUMMER 2014 *Continued*

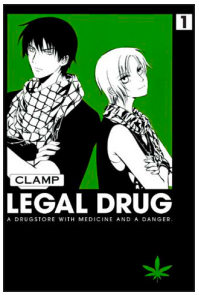
Not Enough Time to Pull It Out!, Vol. 1††
Jōji Manabe
Project-H, LLC
September 23

Wolf Magic†
Natsuki Zippo
Digital Manga Publishing
September 23

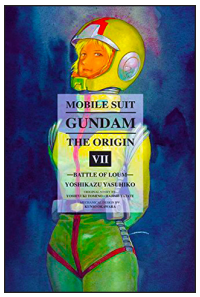
World War Blue, Vol. 7
Anastasia Shestakova, Crimson
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
September 23

Ze, Vol. 9†
Yuki Shimizu
Digital Manga Publishing
September 23

Fairy Tail, Vol. 42
Hiro Mashima
Kodansha Comics
September 30



Legal Drug Omnibus
CLAMP
Dark Horse Manga
September 30



Mobile Suit Gundam: THE ORIGIN, Vol. 7
Yoshikazu Yasuhiko, Yoshiyuki Tomino
Vertical Comics
September 30

My Little Monster, Vol. 4
Robico
Kodansha Comics
September 30

Priapus†
Mentaiko Itto
Bruno Gmunder Group
October 1

Club for Cross Dressers††
Kuromame
Project-H, LLC
October 7

Cute Devil Girlfriend††
Hisasi
Project-H, LLC
October 7

Food Wars!, Vol. 2
Yuto Tsukuda, Yuki MORISAKI, Shun SAEKI
VIZ Media, LLC
October 7

Happy Marriage?!, Vol. 8
Maki Enjōji
VIZ Media, LLC
October 7

Honey Blood, Vol. 1
Miko Mitsuki
VIZ Media, LLC
October 7

Kamisama Kiss, Vol. 16
Julietta Suzuki
VIZ Media, LLC
October 7

Magical Girl Apocalypse, Vol. 1
Kentarō Satō
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
October 7
Not Actual Cover

Manga Dogs, Vol. 1
Ema Toyama
Kodansha Comics
October 7

Missions of Love, Vol. 9
Ema Toyama
Kodansha Comics
October 7

Naruto, Vol. 67
Masashi Kishimoto
VIZ Media, LLC
October 7

Natsume's Book of Friends, Vol. 17
Yuki Midorikawa
VIZ Media, LLC
October 7

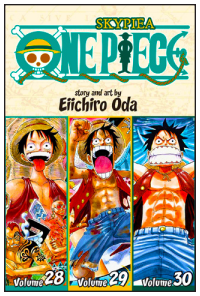
Nura: Rise of the Yokai Clan, Vol. 23
Hiroshi Shiibashi
VIZ Media, LLC
October 7

Mizuki, Kurama & Tomoe — Kamisama Kiss

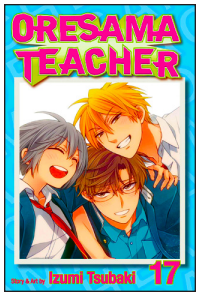
The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice. †yaoi and ††hentai titles for mature audiences 18+.

MANGA RELEASES

SUMMER 2014 *Continued*



One Piece: Skypeia 28-29-30, Vol. 10 (Omnibus Edition)
Eiichirō Oda
VIZ Media, LLC
October 7



Oresama Teacher, Vol. 17
Izumi Tsubaki
VIZ Media, LLC
October 7

Strike Witches: 1937 Fuso Sea Incident, Vol. 2
Humikane Shimada, Ningen
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
October 7

Toriko, Vol. 24
Mitsutoshi Shimabukuro
VIZ Media, LLC
October 7

Vinland Saga, Vol. 5
Makoto Yukimura
Kodansha Comics
October 7

Thorfinn — Vinland Saga

Voice Over!: Seiyu Academy, Vol. 7
Maki Minami
VIZ Media, LLC
October 7

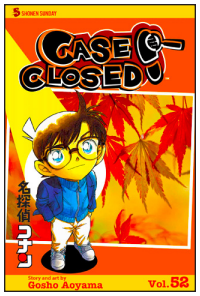
World Trigger, Vol. 1
Daisuke Ashihara
VIZ Media, LLC
October 7

World Trigger, Vol. 2
Daisuke Ashihara
VIZ Media, LLC
October 7

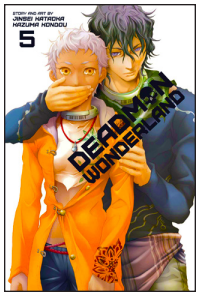
You See, Teacher..., Vol. 1††
Tachibana Ei
Project-H, LLC
October 7

Ajin, Vol. 1
Gamon Sakurai
Vertical Comics
October 14

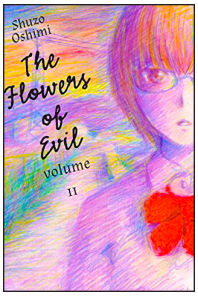
Blue Morning, Vol. 5†
Shōko Hidaka
SuBLime
October 14



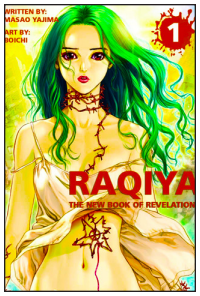
Case Closed, Vol. 52
Gōshō Aoyama
VIZ Media, LLC
October 14



Deadman Wonderland, Vol. 5
Jinsei Kataoka, Kazuma Kondō
VIZ Media, LLC
October 14



Flowers of Evil, Vol. 11
Shūzō Oshimi
Vertical Comics
October 14



Raqiya, Vol. 1
Masao Yajima, Boichi
One Peace Books
October 14

Raqiya, Vol. 2
Masao Yajima, Boichi
One Peace Books
October 14

Say I Love You., Vol. 4
Kanae Hazuki
Kodansha Comics
October 14

Vampire Knight Limited Edition, Vol. 19
Matsuri Hino
VIZ Media, LLC
October 14

Alice in the Country of Diamonds: Bet On My Heart
Sana Shirakawa, Nana Fumitsuki
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
October 21

Animal Land, Vol. 10
Makoto Raiku
Kodansha Comics
October 21

Arpeggio of Blue Steel, Vol. 2
Ark Performance
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
October 21

Black Bird Complete Box Set:, Vols 1-18 with Premium
Kanoko Sakurakōji
VIZ Media, LLC
October 21

Dance in the Vampire Bund: Secret Chronicles
Nozomu Tamaki
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
October 21

Haganai: I Don't Have Many Friends, Vol. 9
Yomi Hirasaka
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
October 21

Monster, Vol. 2: The Perfect Edition
Naoki Urasawa
VIZ Media, LLC
October 21

No Game, No Life, Vol. 1
Yū Kamiya, Mashiro Hiiragi
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
October 21

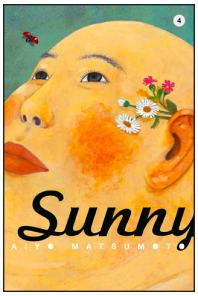
The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change

MANGA RELEASES

SUMMER 2014 *Continued*

No. 6, Vol. 9
Atsuko Asano
Kodansha Comics
October 21

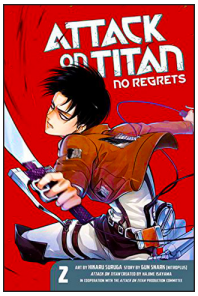
Sankarea, Vol. 9
Mitsuru Hattori
Kodansha Comics
October 21



Sunny, Vol. 4
Taiyō Matsumoto
VIZ Media, LLC
October 21

Witchcraft Works, Vol. 1
Ryu Mizunagi
Vertical Comics
October 21

Alice in the Country of Joker: Circus and Liars Game, Vol. 6
QuinRose, Mamenosuke Fujimaru
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
October 28
Not Actual Cover

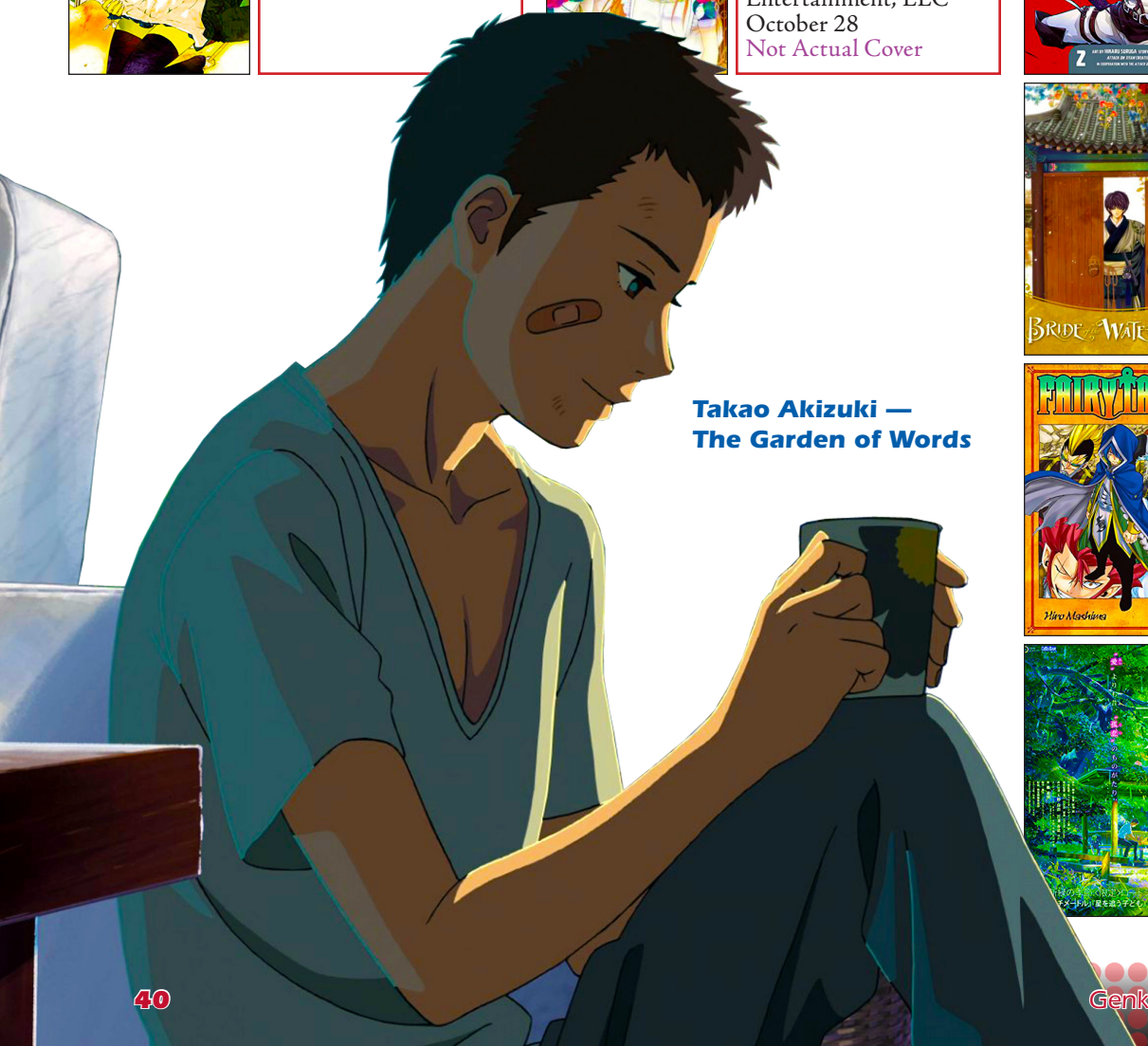


Attack on Titan: No Regrets, Vol. 2
Gun Snark, Hajime Isayama, Hikaru Suruga
Kodansha Comics
October 28

Bride of the Water God, Vol. 16
Mi-Kyung Yun
Dark Horse Books
October 28

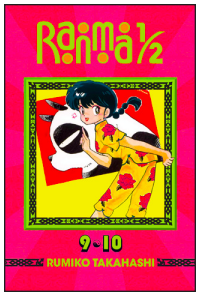
Fairy Tail, Vol. 43
Hiro Mashima
Kodansha Comics
October 28

The Garden of Words
Midori Motohashi, Makoto Shinkai
Vertical Comics
October 28



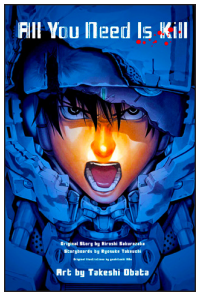
Takao Akizuki — The Garden of Words

More and More of You†
Takeshi Matsu
Bruno Gmunder Group
November 1



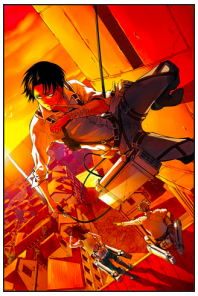
Ranma ½ (2-in-1 Edition), Vol. 5
Rumiko Takahashi
VIZ Media, LLC
November 3

Alice in the Country of Clover: Knight's Knowledge, Vol. 3
QuinRose, Sai Asai
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
November 4
Not Actual Cover



All You Need is Kill (manga): 2-in-1 Edition
Ryōsuke Takeuchi, Hiroshi Sakurazaka, Yoshitoshi Abe, Takeshi Obata
VIZ Media, LLC
November 4

Attack on Titan, Vol. 14
Hajime Isayama
Kodansha Comics
November 4



Attack on Titan: The Spinoffs Collection
Hajime Isayama
Kodansha Comics
November 4
Not Actual Cover

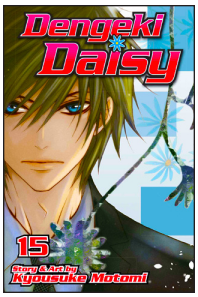
Black Rose Alice, Vol. 2
Setona Mizushiro
VIZ Media, LLC
November 4

Bleach, Vol. 62
Tite Kubo
VIZ Media, LLC
November 4

Blue Exorcist, Vol. 12
Kazue Katō
VIZ Media, LLC
November 4

Claymore, Vol. 25
Norihiro Yagi
VIZ Media, LLC
November 4

D.Gray-man (3-in-1 Edition), Vol. 5: Includes Vols. 13, 14 & 15
Katsura Hoshino
VIZ Media, LLC
November 4



Dengeki Daisy, Vol. 15
Kyōsuke Motomi
VIZ Media, LLC
November 4

Gantz, Vol. 33
Hiroya Oku
Dark Horse Manga
November 4

Kiss of the Rose Princess, Vol. 1
Aya Shōoto
VIZ Media, LLC
November 4

Nisekoi: False Love, Vol. 6
Naoshi Komi
VIZ Media, LLC
November 4

The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice. †Yaoi and ††hentai titles for mature audiences 18+.

MANGA RELEASES

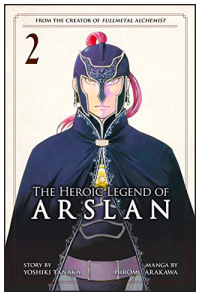
SUMMER 2014 *Continued*

One Piece Box Set 2: Skypiea and Water Seven, Vols. 24-46
Eiichirō Oda
VIZ Media, LLC
November 4
Not Actual Cover

Skip Beat! (3-in-1 Edition), Vol. 9: Includes Vols. 25, 26 & 27
Yoshiki Nakamura
VIZ Media, LLC
November 4

Spell of Desire, Vol. 2
Tomu Ōmi
VIZ Media, LLC
November 4

Tegami Bachi, Vol. 17
Hiroyuki Asada
VIZ Media, LLC
November 4



The Heroic Legend of Arslan, Vol. 2
Yoshiki Tanaka, Hiromu Arakawa
Kodansha Comics
November 4

Ultimo, Vol. 10
Hiroyuki Takei
VIZ Media, LLC
November 4

Vampire Knight Box Set 2:, Vols 11-19 with Premium
Matsuri Hino
VIZ Media, LLC
November 4
Not Actual Cover

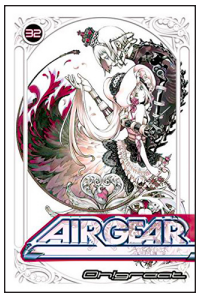
What Did You Eat Yesterday, Vol. 5
Fumi Yoshinaga
Vertical Comics
November 4

Zero's Familiar Chevalier, Vol. 3
Noboru Yamaguchi, Yukari Higa
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
November 4

07-GHOST, Vol. 13
Yukino Ichihara, Yuki Amemiya
VIZ Media, LLC
November 11

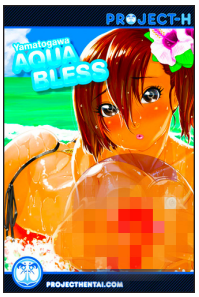
A Murmur of the Heart†
Makoto Tateno
Digital Manga Publishing
November 11

Air Gear Omnibus 4
Oh!Great
Kodansha Comics
November 11

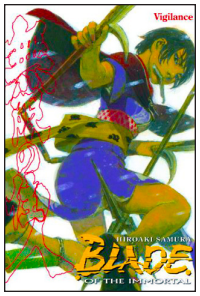


Air Gear, Vol. 32
Oh!Great
Kodansha Comics
November 11

Apple and Honey: His Rose Colored Life†
Hideyoshico
Digital Manga Publishing
November 11
Not Actual Cover

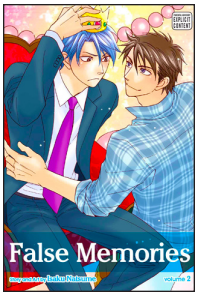


Aqua Bless††
Yamatogawa
Project-H, LLC
November 11



Blade of the Immortal, Vol. 30
Hiroaki Samura
Dark Horse Manga
November 11

Cage of Eden, Vol. 16
Yoshinobu Yamada
Kodansha Comics
November 11

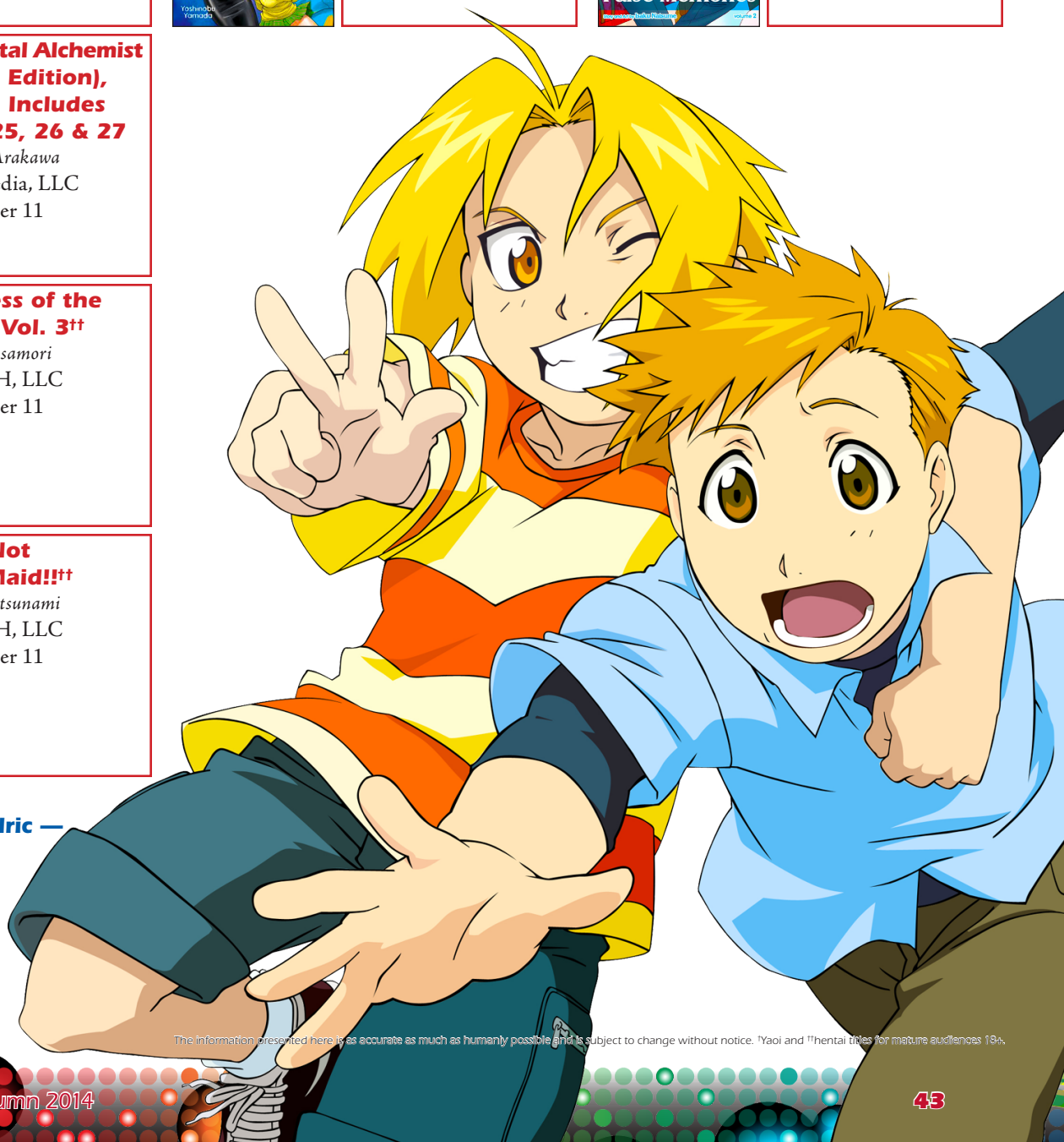


False Memories, Vol. 2†
Isaku Natsume
SuBLime
November 11

Fullmetal Alchemist (3-in-1 Edition), Vol. 9: Includes Vols. 25, 26 & 27
Hiromu Arakawa
VIZ Media, LLC
November 11

Goddess of the Glass, Vol. 3††
Mizuki Asamori
Project-H, LLC
November 11

I Am Not Your Maid!!††
Rumi Matsunami
Project-H, LLC
November 11



Edward & Alphonse Elric — Fullmetal Alchemist

The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice. †Yaoi and ††hentai titles for mature audiences 18+.

MANGA RELEASES

SUMMER 2014 *Continued*

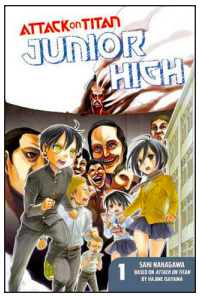
RIN-NE, Vol. 16
Rumiko Takahashi
VIZ Media, LLC
November 11

The Hentai Prince and the Stony Cat, Vol. 3
Kantoku, Okomeken
Digital Manga Publishing
November 11

Tsubasa Omnibus 2
CLAMP
Kodansha Comics
November 11

UQ Holder, Vol. 3
Ken Akamatsu
Kodansha Comics
November 11
Not Actual Cover

Ōoku: The Inner Chambers, Vol. 10
Fumi Yoshinaga
VIZ Media, LLC
November 18



Attack on Titan: Junior High 2
Hajime Isayama, Saki Nakagawa
Kodansha Comics
November 18

Devils and Realist, Vol. 3
Madoka Takadono, Utako Yukihiro
Seven Seas
Entertainment, LLC
November 18

Dragonar Academy Vol. 4
Shiki Mizuchi, Ran
Seven Seas
Entertainment, LLC
November 18

Gangsta., Vol. 4
Kōske
VIZ Media, LLC
November 18

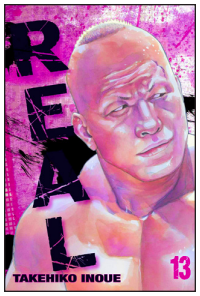
Kokoro Connect, Vol. 2
Anda Sadanatsu, CUTE
Seven Seas
Entertainment, LLC
November 18

Yōto Yokodera & Tsukiko Tsutsukakushi — The Hentai Prince and the Stony Cat

My Little Monster, Vol. 5
Robico
Kodansha Comics
November 18

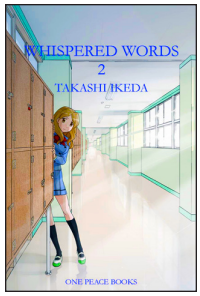
Noragami, Vol. 2
Adachitoka
Kodansha Comics
November 18

Prophecy, Part 1 (Yokokuhan)
Tetsuya Tsutsui
Vertical Comics
November 18



Real, Vol. 13
Takehiko Inoue
VIZ Media, LLC
November 18

Resident Evil, Vol. 1
Naoki Serizawa, CAPCOM
VIZ Media, LLC
November 18



Whispered Words, Vol. 2
Takashi Ikeda
One Peace Books
November 18

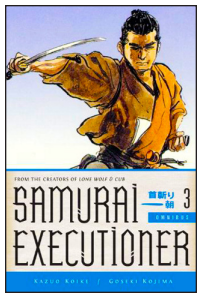
Neon Genesis Evangelion, Vol. 14
Yoshiyuki Sadamato
VIZ Media, LLC
November 20
Not Actual Cover

Cardfight!! Vanguard, Vol. 4
Akira Itō
Vertical Comics
November 25

Fairy Tail, Vol. 44
Hiro Mashima
Kodansha Comics
November 25

Give to the Heart, Vol. 2
Wann
NETCOMICS
November 25

Kamen, Vol. 2
Gunya Mihara
Gen Manga Entertainment
November 25



Samurai Executioner Omnibus, Vol. 3
Kazuo Koike, Gōseki Kojima
Dark Horse Manga
November 25

xxxHOLIC REI, Vol. 2
CLAMP
Kodansha Comics
November 25

Fisherman's Lodge†
Gengorō Tagame
Bruno Gmunder Group
December 1

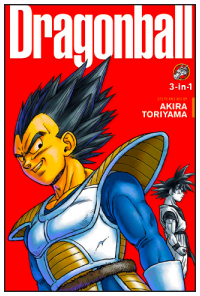
Alice in the Country of Joker: Nightmare Trilogy, Vol. 2
QuinRose, Yobu
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
December 2
Not Actual Cover

The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice. †Yaoi and ††hentai titles for mature audiences 18+.

MANGA RELEASES

SUMMER 2014 *Continued*

Assassination Classroom, Vol. 1
Yusei Matsui
VIZ Media, LLC
December 2

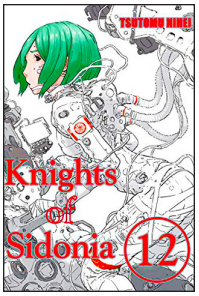


Dragon Ball (3-in-1 Edition), Vol. 7: Includes Vols. 19, 20 & 21
Akira Toriyama
VIZ Media, LLC
December 2

Food Wars!, Vol. 3
Yuto Tsukuda, Yuki MORISAKI, Shun SAEKI
VIZ Media, LLC
December 2

Happy Marriage?!, Vol. 9
Maki Enjōji
VIZ Media, LLC
December 2
Not Actual Cover

Honey Blood, Vol. 2
Miko Mitsuki
VIZ Media, LLC
December 2



Knights of Sidonia, Vol. 12
Tsutomu Nihei
Vertical Comics
December 2

Manga Dogs, Vol. 2
Ema Toyama
Kodansha Comics
December 2

Millennium Snow, Vol. 4
Bisco Hatori
VIZ Media, LLC
December 2

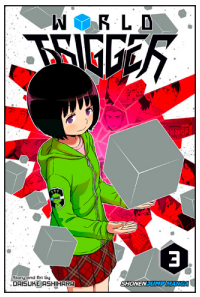
Naruto, Vol. 68
Masashi Kishimoto
VIZ Media, LLC
December 2

Nura: Rise of the Yokai Clan, Vol. 24
Hiroshi Shiibashi
VIZ Media, LLC
December 2

Sankarea, Vol. 10
Mitsuru Hattori
Kodansha Comics
December 2

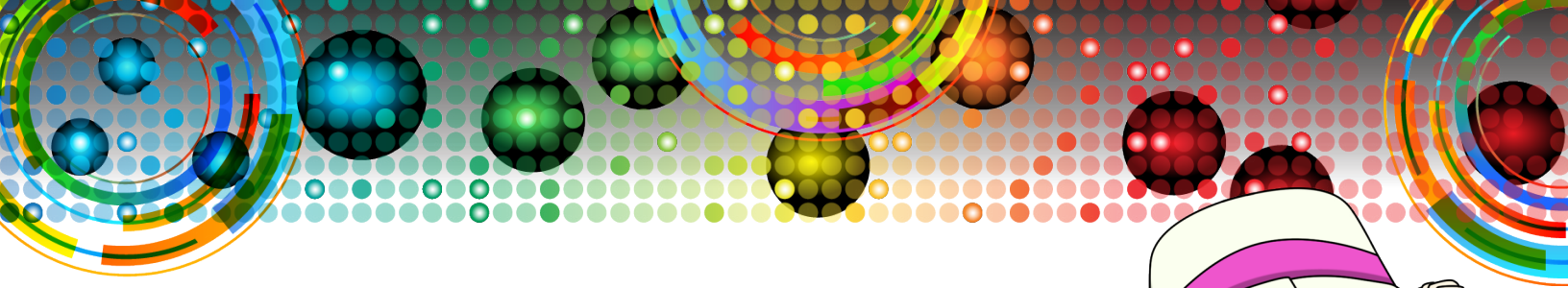
Toriko, Vol. 25
Mitsutoshi Shimabukuro
VIZ Media, LLC
December 2

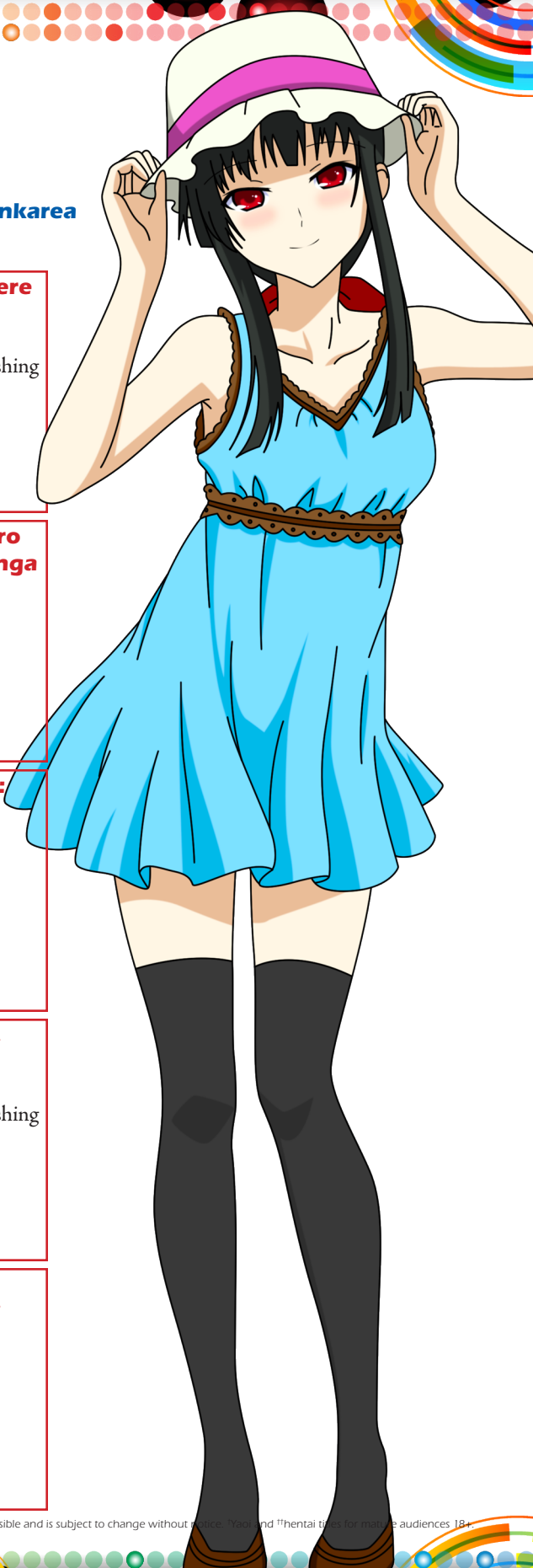
Vampire Knight: Fleeting Dreams
Matsuri Hino, Ayuna Fujisaki
VIZ Media, LLC
December 2



World Trigger, Vol. 3
Daisuke Ashihara
VIZ Media, LLC
December 2

Yukarism, Vol. 1
Chika Shiomi
VIZ Media, LLC
December 2

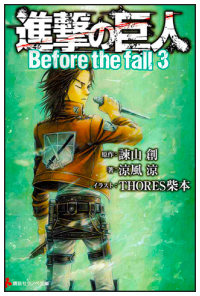




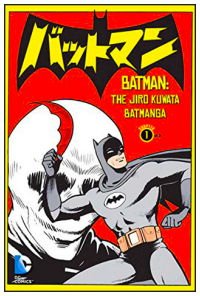
Rea Sanka — Sankarea

Ajin, Vol. 2
Gamon Sakurai
Vertical Comics
December 9
Not Actual Cover

As Many As There Are Stars†
Miecohouse Matsumoto
Digital Manga Publishing
December 9
Not Actual Cover



Attack on Titan: Before the Fall, Vol. 3
Hajime Isayama, Ryō Suzukaze, Satoshi Shiki
Kodansha Comics
December 9
Not Actual Cover



Batman: The Jiro Kuwata Batmanga Vol. 1
Jirō Kuwata
DC Comics
December 9

Deadman Wonderland, Vol. 6
Kazuma Kondō, Jinsei Kataoka
VIZ Media, LLC
December 9

Fantasy Hentai: School Girls††
Shikishirokonomi
Project-H, LLC
December 9

Finder, Vol. 7†
Ayano Yamane
Digital Manga Publishing
December 9

Itazura na Kiss, Vol. 11
Kaoru Tada
Digital Manga Publishing
December 9

Itsuwaribito, Vol. 13
Yūki Iinuma
VIZ Media, LLC
December 9
Not Actual Cover

Makunouchi Deluxe, Vol. 3††
Jōji Manabe
Project-H, LLC
December 9

The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice. †Yaoi and ††hentai titles for mature audiences [18+].

MANGA RELEASES

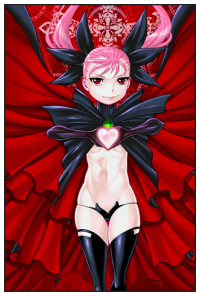
SUMMER 2014 *Continued*

Satoshi Kon: Opus
Satoshi Kon
Dark Horse Manga
December 9

Witchcraft††
Yamatogawa
Project-H, LLC
December 9

Witchcraft Works, Vol. 2
Ryu Mizunagi
Vertical Comics
December 9
Not Actual Cover

Afterschool Charisma, Vol. 10
Kumiko Suekane
VIZ Media, LLC
December 16



Dance in the Vampire Bund II: Scarlet Order, Vol. 1
Nozomu Tamaki
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
December 16
Not Actual Cover

Dogs, Vol. 9
Shirō Miwa
VIZ Media, LLC
December 16

Dorohedoro, Vol. 14
Q Hayashida
VIZ Media, LLC
December 16

Girls Und Panzer: Little Army, Vol. 1
Girls Und Panzer Projekt , Tsuchii
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
December 16

Haganai: I Don't Have Many Friends - Club Minutes
Kiurian, Bomi
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
December 16

Master Keaton, Vol. 1
Naoki Urasawa, Takashi Nagasaki, Hokusei Katsushika
VIZ Media, LLC
December 16

Mobile Suit Gundam: THE ORIGIN, Vol. 8
Yoshikazu Yasuhiko, Yoshiyuki Tomino
Vertical Comics
December 16
Not Actual Cover

New Lone Wolf and Cub, Vol. 3
Kazuo Koike, Hideki Mori
Dark Horse Manga
December 16

Say I Love You., Vol. 5
Kanae Hazuki
Kodansha Comics
December 16

Witch Buster, Vol. 13-14
Jung-Man Cho
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
December 16

xxxHOLiC Omnibus 4
CLAMP
Kodansha Comics
December 16

Third Times the Charm

December 5th - 7th 2014

Pigeon Forge, TN

Meet the Cast of Sailor Moon!

Johnny Bosch: Ichigo in Bleach, Vash the Stampede in Trigun

Erica Mendez: Ryuko in Kill La Kill, Aladdin in Magi

Lucien Dodge: Jafar in Magi, Blue in Pokemon Origins

Patricia Albrecht: Pizzazz in Jem and the Holograms

Martin Billany "Little Kuriboh": YuGiOh! Abridged Series

Cosplay Events Panels Concerts Gaming

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BLOGGER BIOGRAPHY

Anime has been a part of my life for as long as I can remember, and while I am also an avid fan of manga (having collected several series and others in the works of being completed), I was first lead into the "Otaku Culture" by way of Japanese animation. Having been enveloped by an overwhelming passion for anime, it does not come as a surprise that the stories and characters within them have made massive impacts on my life. In fact, I believe I owe my current way of thinking and the way I look on life to previously watched anime and the ideals that have embodied them. This article is going to spill my guts on how I believe that my life has been influenced, for better and for worse, by my love of Japanese animation. I will hold nothing back and will try to elaborate as much as I can, you can catch the full, uncensored truth after the jump.

How Anime has Influenced My Life

Like a lot of people who feel exiled and alone, I felt as though I was an outcast among the human race. People treated me as a 2nd class citizen throughout grade school and this lead to massive self-esteem issues. I was the fat kid in the majority of the classes that I was in, and since I was raised by my mother to be pure-hearted and empathetic, I did not match the cruelty of other children my age…therefore I became a victim to it. Needless to say, I suffered for it throughout my adolescence and it had lasting effects well into my adulthood. However, through anime I was able to find my reasoning to break free of the shackles of my past and cast aside my burdened spirit for a better tomorrow. Sure, I had to make up my own mind to battle the demons that lie within, but I owe my **peace of mind** and **sense of self** to the teachings of

anime in convincing me that I am WORTH that effort.

I was first introduced to anime like many other people during the 90's in the United States, waking up in the morning around 6 o'clock a.m. to watch shows like *Samurai Pizza Cats*, *Sailor Moon* and *Dragon Ball Z*. During the time that I was watching these anime, I merely thought they were average cartoons and thought nothing more about them. Even at the time when I began to watch *Technoman* (*Tekkaman Blade* in Japan) on Saturday mornings I believed it was the same as any other cartoon that came on. Years later, I found out that they were a special kind of cartoon that origin lies in Japan, often referred to as "anime" here in the West. As I grew more and more interested, I began to check out various different ones, collecting manga series and even attending anime conventions. Eventually I began to look at myself and realized I was happier, and the fact that I owed a good amount of it to the strength that anime has given to me.

Tengen Toppa Gurren Lagann was one of the major reasons that my outlook on life changed, it was also something that made me a massive fan of Gainax. Within this series it was someone, who I could very much relate to named Simon, who starts off unsure of himself and is filled with self-doubt, even the feelings of not being good enough when a girl he likes (Yōko) ultimately loves someone else. Drawing strength from his friend, brother, and father figure (Kamina), he eventually evolves into his own person and realizes he is who he is and someone who draws strength from his belief within his own abilities, "Do you know who the HELL I am?!". I felt something awaken within me, that it is fully all right to be myself and that I can achieve great things as long as I am proud of the person that I have become. I alone control my destiny and my friends around me will support me as long as I never falter in my ambitions and do the very best that I can. Even if the masses were to rise up against me, I cannot appease everyone, the only thing I can do is continue to be me and live a life I can be proud of living.

"Dragon Ball Z and Hajime no Ippo taught me very important lessons about strength and kindness."

Dragon Ball Z and *Hajime no Ippo* taught me very important lessons about strength and kindness. Goku and Ippo are examples of people who will shake you to the very core in fights, showing no mercy to their opponents when engaged combat, but they are so gentle they would not harm a fly outside of their respective battlegrounds. If you were to examine others in their series who wanted to be strong, such as Vegeta in *Dragon Ball Z* and Sawamura in *Hajime no Ippo*, they were strong but not enough to overcome the odds of the protagonists. This kind of thing showed me that I can still be who I wanted to be, to be strong without having to resort to being as low as those who would go

Dragon Ball Z

as far as cheating in order to obtain power. In the end, your resolve and staying true to people will garner you support to keep you afloat when you need it the most. Ippo had all those hands at his back from his gym and people who cared for him in his most critical of moments; due to his friendships, Gokū was able to summon help from everyone on Earth to create the spirit bomb that defeated Majin Bū. I honestly use to think in order to obtain more respect, power and to not be looked down upon I needed to change my views on the world, but I realized that there are some people out there who will never like me and that is all right, I just need to keep being me and doing what I can.

Something else I have learned from anime is the fear to regret. There have been many anime in which characters have experienced death of someone they loved (such as *Gokukoku no Brynhildr*), will have to risk their life, or have died themselves. A lot of times, they have never gotten the chance to truly tell someone how they feel, take on that new ambition or become who they wanted to be. We do not have time to constantly think about what others will judge us on. Life is too short and everyone dies and fades from memory. What I do in the **here and now** may not matter a few years down the line if I fail, but what try and succeed at could very well change my entire life. Too many times do I feel like I suppressed myself due to the pressure of failing when it is inevitable that we will all be rejected at some point…but if we were not, how would we measure our success? Anime like *Naruto* showed me that you need to push forward without fear, your whole situation and people's perception of you could easily change as you make strides towards your individual destiny. I refuse to live a life with regrets, I'd rather die having no questions than to wonder "What If?".

When it is all said and done, I still have many things I need to improve on and somethings in life I still have to work through, but they have been made significantly easier through the inspiration given to me by anime. Influences that are bigger than life need to show me that sometimes things are not as big as they seem and that within everyone, even the meekest of people, there lives a hero. We are all capable of writing our own stories that leave behind a great legacy, we just have to make sure that we believe it to be more than delusions of grandeur, but a reality that WE can make possible. Take hold of yourself because no one else can live for you. The last thing you want when lying on your death bed is regrets from things you could have did and the feeling of being ashamed from letting those who do not matter hold you back from enjoying what is rightfully yours—life. Even now, some people will read this, laugh and disregard it, but who cares? Others will identify with it and it may help them as anime has helped me, so I hope that me sharing a piece of my soul has inspired you to go out and live your life the way you should by being yourself to the fullest. How *anime* has influenced my *life*. ❖

Tengen Toppa Gurren Lagann

March 27-29, 2015 at Tarleton State University

TEXANCON キャラクタ コンベンション 2015

Texancon.com

Anime/Manga Anti-Piracy Campaign Begins

An anti-piracy program spearheaded by the Japanese government and anime/manga producers began early August. The program is to crack down on numerous anime and manga properties that have copied illegally. They have given the numerous site operators an ultimatum of five months to delete those properties. If nothing is done after that, it could lead to legal action.

Through this program, a internet site was created to provide links to legitimate anime and manga sites. There are currently over 200 properties on the site, but will grow to more in the future. They are listed in the following website URL http://manga-anime-here.com.

There are many cities in a handful of Asian countries that are being targeted. The Japanese government did a survey to discover that major cities in China were on top of the list. After Asia, they will move on the counties in Europe and then to other counties in the Western Hemisphere. ❖

MyOTHERMe

a film about cosplayers

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www.myotherme.ca

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My OTHER Me

a film about cosplayers

MY OTHER ME

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MOD

Hard Work, Good Friends and Best Luck:

2014 WORLD COSPLAY SUMMIT

By Elrowiel and Pannon of Green Jello Cosplay, edited by Greg J. Hansen

In their fourth year as participants in the WCS US Preliminaries, Elrowiel and Pannon of Green Jello Cosplay finally secured the winning position as Team USA. We are pleased to present this account of their experiences at the 2014 World Cosplay Summit in Japan.

Photo by Pastel-Colored-Cosplay

Team USA in Japan

The beginning of our journey was much like the beginning of any convention journey: little to no sleep, things that still needed finishing and a frenzied rush to pack everything before rushing to the airport. Despite leaving two hours early to catch our flight, the airline was short on staff and the line was the longest we'd ever seen. After checking our bags and rushing through security, we made it to our gate with less than a minute to spare.

After the crazy morning, we settled in for a long flight. And it was a *looooong* flight. Three movies and two airline meals later, we landed in Tōkyō, where we had to go through customs before continuing on to our final stop, Nagoya. We were really impressed with how efficiently and quickly we got through the lines. We had about three hours to spare in our layover, which we spent napping in the seats near our gate.

When we finally arrived in Nagoya, tired but excited, we were met by Ino and Chika, our student volunteers from Otomenashi. They were to help translate and assist us during our stay, but they did so much more than that. The Otomenashi students were invaluable help, but even better friends. We were also met by Eve, our WCS staffer for USA, who acted as our manager and representative, as well as wonderful friend. We had t-shirts made for them all so we could be "Team USA" together, complete with their names on the backs. They helped us load our bags to the bus and then it was on to our hotel!

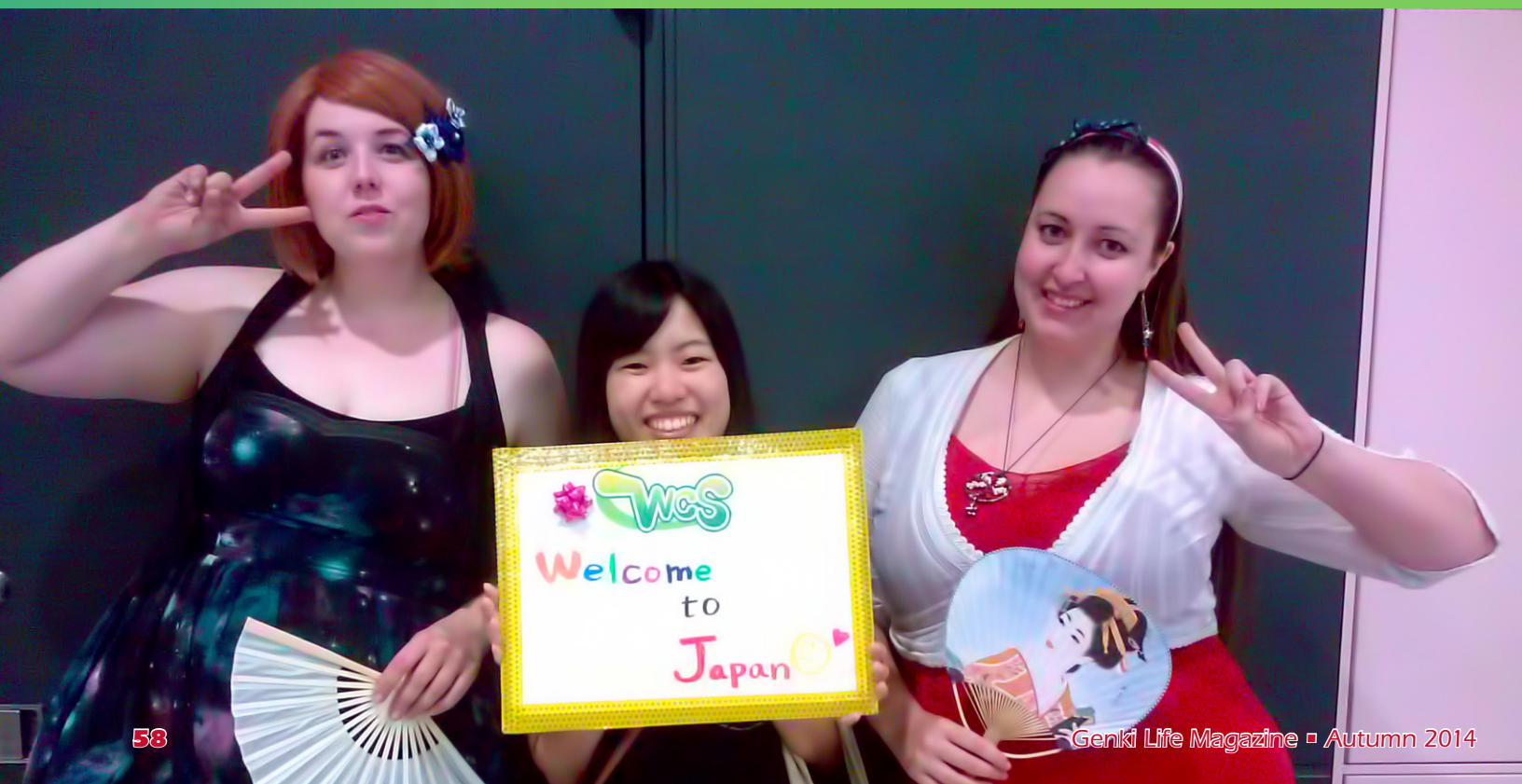
During World Cosplay Ssummit, we stayed at the Nagoya Hotel International, in Aichi prefecture. We had heard it was a smaller city, but were shocked to see how large it was. And at night, it was lit up, just like walking the strip in Las Vegas!

Our room was #530 and our next-door neighbors were Lauren and Emi of Team UK! We weren't sure if they ever slept during the 10 days of WCS. It seemed like there was always laughter and Disney songs playing through the walls.

For our first night, Ino took us to an authentic ramen shop, where we got to sample some of the local cuisine. We also learned of Eve's love for all things spicy and Ino's inability to tolerate anythings spicy at all. Eve was dubbed the "Spicy Sister" after we attempted varying levels of spicy kimchi and she put us all to shame.

After all that, we had never been so excited for sleep. When we saw our hotel room, we were surprised to find that the students had left welcome cards, sweets and origami for each of us. They had even printed the cards with our favorite anime series on them!

Day one of WCS was to be the "Centrair Event." For those unfamiliar, Centrair is Nagoya's airport, but also home to a shopping center and many events. We met up in the hotel's conference room first and met the Japanese organizers, staff and students. It was also the first time we were able to meet all the other teams! We sat down somewhere between Denmark, Brazil, Germany and Australia (apologies in advance, much of this report sounds like an episode of *Hetalia*, doesn't it?).



After the meeting, we boarded the bus to Centrair. We'd picked our *Legend of Zelda: Twilight Princess* costumes for the event, with Pannon as Link and Elrowiel as Princess Zelda. It was definitely a new experience. Japan's cosplay culture is very different from USA. One of the major differences being that if there is a cosplay event, you bring your costume in a suitcase, change there, change back afterward and take your suitcase home. Our mutual friend Teca of Wild Garden Cosplay called it the "don't bring your shame on the train" rule. Unlike many US conventions, you won't see cosplayers roaming the streets, riding the train or driving around in their costumes. Instead, we were ushered to a changing room, where we were able to get into our costumes.

"It was hilarious to see all the countries rushing around trying to think of ideas for their introductions."

The Centrair event itself consisted of a short interview and some posing on stage, followed by a photo shoot, where attendees could come and take pictures of all the teams. The interview was fun, and then we were taken outside.

We had been warned of Nagoya's intense summer heat, but experien-cing it firsthand was a whole other adventure. The heat itself wasn't terribly high, mid 90s, but the humidity made things like just standing around or walking down the street enough to make you sweat buckets (what? I mean cosplayers don't sweat, of course, right?). Much to our relief, the photo shoot was only about half an hour, so it wasn't too bad. When we got together for the group photo, it was like staring at a sea of cameras! We'd been to many conventions and photo shoots, but never anything like this!

Afterward, we were able to take some fun photos of other teams back in the blissfully air-conditioned halls of Centrair. We met Teams Italy and Japan, Finland and Russia, and even got to pull a few of them for some of our live-blog videos (you can still see the videos on our Facebook page!). And then, it was on to the students' official welcome party!

The students of Otomenashi hosted a party where we got to meet the other teams officially, exchange omiyage (small gifts from each country), sample foods and play the most exciting game of bingo we've ever experienced. Elrowiel managed a bingo and got to take some green tea home as well!

The room was so full that it was hard to visit everyone, but we had an amazing time. UK showed us their Polaroid camera, which would be used for hilarious blackmail photos—that is, lovely pictures of all the teams throughout the week. We exchanged cards with other countries and student cosplayers. Cosplay business cards are catching on in the US, but they are *huuuuge* in Japan.

Make sure you always have some on hand!

The next day, we were to film our introductions that would later be played during the WCS event to introduce our team. We had shopped for all things American and put together some ridiculously patriotic outfits, then used our modified version of the Team Rocket motto for the video. It was hilarious to see all the countries rushing around trying to think of ideas for their introductions. As we finished filming, we ran into Team Brazil, with their soon-to-be infamous Banana JoJo; and later Team Denmark, who was brainstorming about taping sharks to their faces and rubber ducks on their heads. It was good to see that so many had a good sense of humor about it and had so much fun filming them.

We had free time available for the rest of the day, so we went exploring around Nagoya with Eve. We found some shopping centers and the Daiso (the Japanese equivalent of the Dollar Store!) and picked up some things we needed, then later in the day, we went shopping with Jacky (of the WCS organizers) and Team China! It was sometimes difficult to converse with teams without a common language, but we still had a great time exploring the Animate store together. Jacky told us about his work in cosplay and found we had a common love of *Rurōni Kenshin*. We were really surprised at how many resources Japanese cosplayers have at their fingertips too. Jacky showed us the cosplay floor of Animate, where one could purchase costume, wig, accessories, make-up and more—all at once. Elrowiel discovered her love for gashapon machines or gacha-gacha; toy dispenser machines that held random keychains and figures from different popular series. Pannon discovered that she was very excited for the *Free!!* and *Uta no Prince-sama* merchandise.

On the 28th, we had a busy time of craftsmanship judging, interviews and weighing the costumes and props. We had to present our costumes before a panel of judges from every country! We were given about ten minutes to present the costumes, then the judges could get up and examine the costumes up close and ask even more questions. It was a little intimidating, but we had a fun time of it.

Next, we had interviews with staff for WCS, to go over our lighting and effects during the show itself. The event is run by a professional television crew, so they were really friendly and easy to work with. Next was an interview with cosplayer Minemes, TaeYeon Kim. After that, Brother (I'm sure you know of their sewing machines!) was hosting an event where we were able to sample the machines and test them out. We got to make some fun souvenirs and embroidered custom messages on our t-shirts and bags.

Afterward, we tried to make a mad dash for McDonald's with Team UK (they wanted to experience a little part of America with America), but found they were closed. Nooo!

Photo by Prince Photography

So many things closed early, but there were always karaoke shops open all night!

The following day we were able to tour the Brother museum and bask in the glory of their wall of machines dating back to some of the very first sewing machines! We also found out that not only does Brother make sewing machines, they also make Joysound karaoke machines! They didn't have to ask us twice to try them out. After trying for a few minutes to find a song that Teams US and UK knew, we ended up with One Direction as the only solution and belted out "You don't know you're beautiful."

When we got back, we had to throw on our Vocaloid cosplays and dash off to meet with various officials in Nagoya. We were so lucky to be chosen to be in the group that met with Aichi prefectural governor, Hideaki Ōmura and his staff. Much to our surprise, he came to the meeting dressed as Detective Conan! We were given many wonderful souvenirs, including a maneneko, the waving cat fgure. Then we went to Nagoya Convention & Visitors Bureau, where the entire staff was in full cosplay to welcome us!

After a short meeting, they guided us to the planetarium next-door, which was also a museum. They had themed all of their exhibits after *Dragon Ball Z*,

so children could ride Gōku's nimbus cloud, fight androids or learn about the gravity on King Kai's planet. We got some photos with Android #18 and practiced our best Super Saiya-jin poses.

Next up, our free day! We began the day with a photo shoot at Oh!-Sta! While it is hard to have photo shoots out in the open in Japan, it is surprisingly easy to find cosplay photo studios, places where you can bring a photographer and take all the pictures you want in a variety of settings. Oh!-Sta had a fancy piano in front of marble pillars, a vanity, a school classroom, disco room, kitchen

World Cosplay Summit 2014 Teams

United States
Elrowiel & Pannon (Green Jello Cosplay)
www.facebook.com/WCSTeamUSA
www.facebook.com/GreenJelloCosplay

Australia
Mijiko & Elro
www.facebook.com/ApocalypseMeowCosplay
www.facebook.com/WorldCosplaySummitAustralia

Brazil
Bruno & Tiago
www.facebook.com/wcsbrazil2014

China
Lu Hao & FeiNI

Germany
E-chan & Artflower
https://www.facebook.com/peilosistas

Denmark
Shinji & Tiny
www.facebook.com/pages/Shinji-Cosplay/617512464941692
www.facebook.com/TinyCosplay

Spain
Madoka & Crispychicken
www.facebook.com/wcsspain2014

Finland
Hoothoot & Illona
www.facebook.com/WCSTeamFinland2014

France
Kalimsshar & Ako
www.facebook.com/KalimssharCosplay
www.facebook.com/AkoCosplay

United Kingdom
Felixize & Emi-zone
www.facebook.com/WCSTeamUK

Indonesia
Dharma & Ryan
www.facebook.com/oneokcosplay

and even a ball-pit. We got to test out our *Final Fantasy IX* costumes and took lots of pictures with Rio and Momen of Otomenashi (and even got an extra hour in the ball-pit!).

Otomenashi planned several tours for the countries to participate in. We chose Osu! They had a huge shopping arcade including cosplay shops, a maid café and even an *Alice in Wonderland* themed shop, with a tiny door as the entrance! We finished shopping at a store called Mandarake, which was amazing, but dangerous for our wallets! They had so many figurines, cosplay, doujinshi and more; and at surprisingly cheap prices! We got lots of Madoka and Homura figures, *Code Geass*, *Legend of Zelda* and more!

As we left Mandarake, we met with the film crew of TV Aichi, who wanted to follow us as we experienced the Osu tour! It was a strange feeling, being followed by a large camera, boom mic and more as we walked around Nagoya; but they were very friendly and asked us about how we

were enjoying Japan and what our favorite things had been. We were able to visit a couple of shops that had sponsored WCS, included Candy Velvet (a salon that specializes in anime-style haircuts and wig-styling) and Dark Side, a shop specializing in Marvel, DC and other imported fandoms like *Harry Potter* and *Star Wars*.

Last stop was a Japanese haunted house! Before entering, we had to pick one person in our party to make a pinky-promise with the ghost of the house. It was really different from the haunted houses we'd been to in the US. Ino came with us and clung tightly to our hands, but gathered his courage to make it through! Pannon was chosen to make

the ghost's pinky promise because we have yet to find something that scares her. There was a very eerie atmosphere and lots of frightening actors throughout the maze! If you were scared by *Ju-On* or *Ringu*, you'd probably love this too!

Many of our nights ended in karaoke parties, but this one was probably most memorable. We went with Australia, UK, Netherlands, Finland, Denmark and more and managed to cram most of us into a little karaoke room. The best were the songs almost everyone knew and the whole room would become rowdy with laughter and singing. It was a blast! We never wanted the night to end.

Next day, we took all our things to the Aichi Arts Center Concert Hall, the new venue for the finals performances! It was huge, had great lighting and…best of all…air

conditioning! We were led to the dressing rooms, complete with signs with our country's name on them. We shared a room with Japan, Russia, Spain and China, but the rooms were very spacious. We had a dress rehearsal where we got to make sure that our props worked, our sets were staged correctly and to see if we wanted any changes to the lighting. It was a little nerve-wracking. Green Jello Cosplay has a history of really wretched rehearsals followed by really great performances, though it was no less terrifying when we rehearsed and things were going wrong right and left.

We had an amazing dinner that night though, with all the countries and dubbed it the "Night of a Thousand Selfies." Every few minutes someone would be running one way or another taking huge group photos. The food was great, the company was even better and everyone took turns hugging Tiago of Team Brazil (Banana JoJo himself!), who shed all the tears we couldn't at the thought of everyone leaving so soon.

Unfortunately, it had to, but new and brighter things were on the way. The day of the WCS performances was also the day of the Red Carpet Parade. We had never felt more like celebrities than when we were walking down the red carpet, surrounded on all sides by camera crews and fans. We heard so many voices shouting "Look here! Look here!" that it was hard to keep track of them all. Still, it was really fun and a great way to kick off the events of the day.

After the parade, it was back to the Arts Center. It is

Italy
NadiaSK & MOGU
www.facebook.com/WCSTeamItaly

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Amini & Azuma

South Korea
DangerousMan & AZA
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KANAKO & RISA
www.facebook.com/pucos

Taiwan
Extreme & Aya
www.facebook.com/AYAYA1108

Observer Countries:
Vietnam, Philippines, State of Kuwait, Portugal

to represent the US. We felt so lucky to get to see all the different the skits and how amazingly talented each country was.

The following day, we got to participate in the Osu parade, which took place in the same shopping center we had visited with the Otomenashi students. It was unbelievable how different it looked during the parade! The shopping center was close to a mile all the way around and it was packed wall-to-wall with people and cameras. We went as Tidus and Yuna from *Final Fantasy X* and wow, it was a good thing neither of us were claustrophobic! The number of people who showed up was nothing short of staggering! It was great to see so many people excited about cosplay though and despite the heat we had an amazing time.

We actually got to travel in costume that day, so after the parade was over, we ran across the street with Team UK to the arcade, where we took some PuriKura (print club) photos. The booths varied all over, with options for how to distort our faces and different stamps and sparkles and everything in-between. They made for some great souvenirs!

The last party was sponsored by Brother at their Joysound building in Nagoya, so of course, more karaoke! We did a reprise of 1D with the

really hard to put into words the feeling of preparing for and performing on that stage. We had never felt so nervous, never had so much pressure, but at the same time, never felt so loved and supported by those near and far. We could not have asked for better fans, family, and friends abroad; KikiKabuki and friends in our home state even threw an all-nighter party to watch the performances. And in Japan, we had made so many friends among the teams and organizers and students, it was such and honor to be able to perform with them. We were thrilled to be able to say that everything worked as planned on the skit; everything went off when it was supposed to, the quick-changes worked as they were supposed to and neither of us fell on our faces. Though in the end, we didn't place, we still felt good about the performance and tried our best

UK team and then wracked our brains for something ridiculous and patriotic to sing. So immediately, we went with Miley Cyrus' "Party in the USA." It was so much fun and everyone was in high spirits after the pressure of competition. So many hugs and tears, but most of all, smiles!

Our last adventure of WCS was visiting an authentic ryokan (a Japanese Inn) with open-air. It was probably one of our absolute favorite places to visit. The inn gave us all yukata to change into and then we were treated to an amazing meal, relaxing Japanese baths and ended the evening with fireworks with all the staff and students. It was a late night; no one wanted to say goodbye. The day that followed was so full of tears and it was so difficult to leave everyone, especially knowing we might not see some of our friends again face-to-face (thank goodness for Facebook and online social networking!). Despite only knowing these teams and organizers for ten days, we forged friendships that we know will last for years to come. It was such an amazing experience and we will never forget it!

Post-WCS Adventures

After saying goodbye to everyone, it was time to strike out on our own. We did manage to catch Wirru from Australia and Eve for the evening and went to see the new live-action *Rurouni Kenshin* movie. It was incredible! We enjoyed every minute!

After that? Osaka! We picked up our JR passes (these allowed us to ride any JR train including the Shinkansen or bullet-train to anywhere in Japan for 7 days) which made the trip to Osaka short and simple!

Osaka has many amazing sites and even more amazing food! We got to try their famous okonomiyaki, soba and some great crepes! Most exciting, though, was getting to see a live performance by the Takarazuka Revue. Takarazuka is an all-female cast that does some of the sparkliest, craziest, most incredible performances you will ever see. If you have seen *Ouran High School Host Club*, the Zuka-club is based on Takarazuka. That should give you some idea! They did not disappoint! The performance consists of a play and then a Revue, which is a series of dance numbers in costumes that seem to get larger and sparklier with every passing minute. It was so amazing to see in person!

Okinawa

Due to an unexpected surprise from ANA (All Nippon Airways) and World Cosplay Summit, we were given a free flight and hotel stay to anywhere in Japan! We had already made a lot of plans for our stay, but managed to squeeze it in. After a bit of discussion, we decided to go see Okinawa.

For those unfamiliar, Okinawa is the southern-most portion of Japan and consists of several small islands. We got one of the earliest flights we could, so we would be able to enjoy as much as possible.

When we arrived at the airport in Osaka, the ANA staff were so incredibly friendly and helpful. We got through check-in and security so quickly too. The flight was short and the airline was surprisingly spacious. Both of us are tall and we had room to stretch our legs, which was shocking!

After arriving, it was like we had stepped into a new world. The island was so lush with trees and greenery, it felt like we had walked into Jurassic Park! We took a long bus-ride to get to our hotel, the Lemon House. They even picked us up from the bus station. Not only was the service great, the hotel we stayed at was the best of the entire trip! It was a complete apartment with an incredible view, a kitchen, bath, washer/dryer and walk-in closet. And in spite of all that, we probably spent the least time there. Okinawa just had so much to see!

We dropped off our things and made straight for the Okinawa aquarium. It was about a mile and a half away, but after all the walking we had done so far, it felt like nothing!

On our way, we stopped at a local restaurant called "Papaya" which served local favorites. Their specialty was papaya tempura with papaya pudding for dessert. Everything was so tasty!

With our tummies full, we walked to the aquarium, which was practically a theme park all on its own. Okinawa

Aquarium is the second largest in the world and home to all kind of aquatic life. We saw sharks, turtles, dolphins, jellyfish, manatees and more. They had a clown fish exhibit and it was so cute to see the children pointing and yelling, "Nemo-chan! Nemo-chan!"

There was a petting zoo area where we could go through and touch different sea life, an aquarium with deep sea creatures, including crabs that looked like gigantic spiders (no really, their bodies alone were bigger than our heads!) and the enormous aquarium in the center of the building, which was home to an entire eco-system of different sea creatures. Tiny little fishes, to manta rays, to gigantic sharks, they were all there!

Afterward we got to watch a dolphin show and explore the park. Not only was th ere an aquarium, but there was also a beach and a historic Okinawan village. The beach had been closed because of a coming storm, so we decided to check out the historical sites of the village instead. They had houses and replicas that were hundreds of years old. We arrived at that part of the park just as a typhoon began storming our way. It was eerily empty, but we wanted to see as much as possible. We continued exploring until the sun went down, then walked back to our hotel.

Even with the late hour, there was so much to see. We stopped at a few shops on our way back to pick up souvenirs and got back just in time to avoid getting too soaked by the rain.

Sadly, we had to head back the next day, but it was a later flight, so we got to wander around for a bit longer before going to the airport. Luckily, we were just ahead of the storm and missed most of it as we flew back! It was such a fun trip, it was a pity we couldn't stay longer.

Osaka to Kyoto

We took a late Shinkansen to Kyōto and found out that neither of us are good with maps in Japan. We attempted to find our hotel from the train station, only to find we had no idea where it was. Luckily, we stumbled upon it at around 11 pm and collapsed into the tiniest room of the entire trip. It was literally a closet with a futon cushion we could put up or down. All the same, we were so tired, we didn't care at all!

The next morning was supposed to be sight-seeing all the great historic places in Kyōto. Instead, it became surviving the typhoon. We were bound and determined to at least see Kiyomizudera, wound our way there using a combination of Elrowiel's GPS and Pannon's fuzzy memory on her last trip to Kyōto some six years ago. Still, we found the place and trudged up to the foot of the temple. At that point, we were already soaked despite our umbrellas. In for a penny, in for a pound, we decided not to let it stop us and climbed onward to the top! It usually has a stupendous view, but due to the weather, it was hard to see much at all. The temple itself was beautiful though and worth the hike! We got to draw fortunes too; Elrowiel got 'Half-Luck' and Pannon received 'Best Luck!'

By the time we hiked back down to our hotel, we were soaked and tired, but wanted to see more. We walked down some of the streets once famous for the "Wolves of Mibu," part of the Shinsengumi during Japan's Bakumatsu Era. There was a surprising number of shrines and temples which were right next to shopping malls and hotels! We found a large shopping center and wandered around, eventually finding a strawberry parfait shop with desserts of all sorts and sizes, up to the ridiculously large and tried our hand at some of the UFO catcher games in the arcades.

We lucked out and as fate would have it, we ran into teams UK and Germany as we were leaving Kyōto, so we all decided to visit Fushimi Inari together. Fushimi Inari is one of many temples in the area, but this one is best known for its torii, or gates. There are literally thousands and thousands of them throughout the temple grounds. It was also one of the most difficult hikes we had attempted and by the end we found we had scaled an entire mountain! It was hard work, but we had so much fun with the other teams, it was well worth it. We were really glad to get to see a bit more of Kyōto before we had to leave for Tōkyō.

Tōkyō, it turns out, is much larger than we could have ever guessed. We broke up our trip into sections, attempting to explore small bits each day and, even then, we missed a lot of things! It was our great fortune to have our friend Megsy with us, who acted as a guide for much of the trip. We started out by visiting the Square Enix café, which is actually a tiny building next to Square Enix headquarters that is sort of shaped like a giant bean. While unremarkable on the outside, inside they had all kinds of wonderfully geeky things. When we visited, they had original artwork from *The World Ends With You* [*TWEWY*] on display. So many nerd chills to see it in-person. They also had a materia fountain, jewelry from all the games, and more merchandise than you could shake a stick at. In the cafe, all the food and drinks were based on different Square Enix games. There were sundaes from *Final Fantasy*, pancakes from *Dragon Quest* and slushes from *TWEWY*. We ordered Cloud and Aerith's sundaes (topped with a chocolate buster sword and a large pink edible ribbon), which

came complete with napkins from Tifa's 7th Heaven bar, and coasters shaped like reaper-pins from *TWEWY*. It was a little piece of otaku paradise.

On our way through Harajuku, seemingly miraculously, we ran into Tiago and Bruno (and friends) from Team Brazil. Pannon's 'Best Luck' must have been working! Tiago spotted us from a nearby cafe and almost tackled us with hugs. We were so glad to see them one more time! We changed our plans and decided to spend the rest of the day with Brazil. They were heading to The Gundam Museum, which turned out to be even more amazing than we could have hoped. Not only was it across the street from the Tōkyō Metropolitan Government Building (the building in the *Digimon Movie*!), but outside was a full-size mech with moving head and lights and crazy effects! We took dozens of pictures, especially when it got dark enough that the mecha began lighting up. Next, we went in to see the museum.

Inside, they had all kinds of Gundam exhibits! We took photos in different cockpits, with different Gundam pilots and they had even built replicas from all over the Gundam universe. In the theater, we got to see a clip from *Gundam Unicorn*, projected on a planetarium ceiling. The effects were great, it really gave a sense of scale if you were to see something like that in real life. There was a Gundam timeline, showing where all the different series overlap, which years they came out in, what ways some relate and more. And of course, the museum ended with a shop chock full of models. Elrowiel picked up an amazing Wing Zero, but sadly for Pannon, there were no Deathscythes to be had.

Not wishing to part ways too quickly, we went with Brazil to the *One Piece* restaurant. Yes, a *One Piece* restaurant. You could take pictures with Sanji, see Zoro climbing the main mast, and of course, Luffy, pinching meats from the kitchen. All the dishes were themed from the series and the music was all the openings and endings from the anime. After a good meal, goodbyes were difficult, but we parted ways with Brazil and headed back to our hotel in Ikebukuro.

The next day, we took a trip to Tōkyō Disney. It was busier there than we had ever seen at Disneyland in Anaheim, even in the middle of summer. Despite having fast-passes, we only made it to six or seven rides, but we did see both parades! We also lucked out in that we were there during their matsuri, which is only a couple of weeks during the summer. Everyone was decked out in Japanese festival wear!

Our last shopping day came next, and we were determined to hit a few more places before the end of our trip. We got to Ikebukuro and checked out the Tales of Shop and the Nitro+Chiral shop. Not wanting to miss anything, we decided a maid cafe was perfect for lunch and dropped in on the nearest one. It was adorable! The cafe was designed like a classroom; and upon entering we were given name-tags and an entrance ceremony, where the

maids taught us their "nya-nya" cheer. We were even able to take pictures together afterward and the maids wrote cute messages on the photos for us.

We stopped in Shibuya to pay our respects to Hachi, a dog statue you should totally Google if you haven't heard of (Hachi is the best ;_;) and then went on to Scramble Crossing, which is just as crazy and full of people as you might imagine. We hit 109 and several other places made popular by Square-Enix's *The World Ends with You* and finished the night with…you guessed it, more karaoke!

Our last event was the famous Comiket. Wow! What can we say, other than it was definitely an experience to remember. We had to dress on-site and the changing room was literally a giant empty gymnasium-type room, completely full of other girls in various states of dress. We changed quickly into Tidus and Yuna and tried to find one of the areas designated for cosplay. And tried some more. Every time we found a place for cosplay, it was already totally packed! (Yep, you can only take cosplay photos in certain areas of Comiket!) After searching for a while, we found a place to stand, but once again, it was a bit of a culture shock. Cosplayers would literally stake out a place to stand and just pose in the sweltering heat while passersby took their pictures. We could only handle it for so long before we were sunburned and tired and we made it back inside to change just in time to beat the rush of cosplayers coming back as Comiket began to close. We tried to hit up some doujinshi tables before the day was out, but most of the tables had sold out or already closed. It was a little disappointing, but definitely an unforgettable day!

Pannon had apparently used up all her good luck, because on the way back to our hotel, she sprained her ankle and we ended up hobbling the last few blocks. On a good note, she always packs her ankle brace for just such an emergency. All patched up, we were able to find a close by Korean BBQ restaurant to end our trip with a giant pile of meat.

In all, it was an amazing trip, an unforgettable experience and something we will always treasure. We are so grateful to the staff and organizers for their help in making our dream come true. It took us four years to make it as Team USA, but each year we improved; refined our costumes and performances; and finally, we made it. To future teams, please keep trying! It will never be easy, but the people you meet, both in the US at the regional competitions and abroad if you make it to Japan, are some of the most incredible and talented people you will ever have the honor of calling friends. We hope you will treasure your memories of WCS as much as we have treasured ours. Best of luck future teams! We are cheering for you, too!

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Southwest Qualifier 2015 Winners

Saboten Con

Photo by Al Squall

Southwest Regional Winner:
Team Magpie from *Persona 4*

Photo by Al Squall

Southwest Wild Card:
Project Nekomimi from AKB0048

Mountain Qualifier 2015 Winners

Nan Desu Kan

Photo by Dustin Leitzel Photography

Mountain Wild Card:
Elemental Moon Cosplay from *Howl's Moving Castle*

Photo by Dustin Leitzel Photography

Mountain Regional Winner:
Ennui Killed the Cosplay from *The World of Mystic Wiz*

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DAZZLE VISION

Official Hakaine Maiko Line stickers

Japanese hard rock band DAZZLE VISION has released a set of official LINE stickers for Hakaine Maiko, the UTAU vocal software character modeled after screamo vocalist Maiko. The stickers are designed to "let you show your angry side with no limits!"

Popular in the Japanese metal scene for their hard rock sound and Maiko's alternating melodic/death-voice vocals, Dazzle Vision was formed in June 2003.

Dazzle Vision released their first album *Origin of Dazzle* in November of 2006. Their second album *Camellia Japonica* was released in April 2007, followed by an 11-city tour of Japan. After selling out of the first presses of *Origin of Dazzle* and *Camellia Japonica*, their 3rd album *Crystal Children* hit #1 on HMV's pre-sale chart and #2 on Tower Records pre-sale chart prior to its official release in November 2008.

In April 2010, Dazzle Vision performed live for 4,000 American fans at Sakura-Con 2010.

Dazzle Vision's 4th album, to the next placed 2nd place on HMV Indies Chart, and 26th place on Amazon's New Music Chart. In 2011, their 5th album *Kirari* achieved 1st place on HMV Indies Chart, 9th place on Tower Record Indies Chart, and 16th place on Amazon's New Music Chart. The same year, Dazzle Vision became the first screamo band to perform an in-store live at Shibuya's Tower Records. In June 2011, Dazzle Vision was a featured interview in Japan's famous music magazine *BURRN!*

In February 2012, Dazzle Vision was chosen as the opening act for American rock band Evanescence in Tōkyō and Nagoya. Dazzle Vision's new album *Shocking Loud Voice* was released in May, 2012, followed by the EP *EVOLUTION* in November, 2012. Dazzle Vision returned to America for a live performance at Tekkoshocon 2013 in Pittsburgh, PA, followed by a special encore show at Pittsburgh's Hard Rock Cafe. The Pittsburgh concert was released as the band's first live *CD LIVE* in Pittsburgh in 2013. Dazzle Visions next studio album, *FINAL ATTACK*, was released in March 2014.

Dazzle Vision was featured on the *SADS* tribute album released in March in Japan, contributing their cover of the song "Hate," originally released on the album *The Rose God Gave Me* in 2001. Dazzle Vision performed at a 2-day release event concert "Carnival of Evil" with fellow contributors MEJIBRAY, DIAURA, LIPHLICH, Lycaon, and HEXVOID at The Garden Hall in Meguro, Tōkyō. Dazzle Vision vocalist Maiko was featured in the Square Enix smartphone game Final Fantasy Agito in May 2014. ❖

VOCAL: Maiko • GUITAR: Tony • BASS: Takuro • DRUMS: Haru

A video preview has been created using DAZZLE VISION's song "Second" to demonstrate the feelings users can communicate with the stickers.

Check out the stickers at:
store.line.me/stickershop/product/1017770/en

Official DAZZLE VISION Links

Website:
dazzlevision.net

Twitter:
www.twitter.com/DAZZLE_VISION

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/dazzlevision2010

Merchandise:
rockshop.com

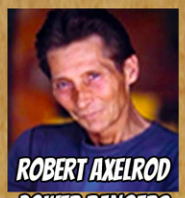
ANIME - COSTUMES - CELEBRITIES - ART - MUSIC - COMEDY

FANDOM CON YEAR 5

NOV 7-9, 2014

SCOTT MCNEIL
DRAGON BALL Z

CHUCK HUBER
DRAGON BALL Z



ROBERT AXELROD
POWER RANGERS

LITTLE KURIBOH
YUGIOH ABRIDGED

HAIDEN HAZARD
COSPLAYER

JESSICA GRUNDY
HOUND COMICS

JOANNA SHIRLEY
BLOODY BOMBSHELL

ANDREA ALBIN
BLOODY BOMBSHELL

TONY BURKETT
COMEDIAN

THOMAS GREEN
GAME DESIGNER

ERIC DUPRE
UNDERGROUND FX

KARRY ENGLISH
COMEDIAN

ARJAY FLOYD
LIVING FOR THE MOMENTS

DJ RYUDO

TRAVIS PATTERSON
TLP PHOTOGRAPHY

JESSICA BRIGHT
COMEDIAN

TODD GOSSER
COMEDIAN

CLETUS VANDAMME
COMEDIAN

MIKE SMITH
EMERALD COAST COSPLAY

THE GOVNA
COMEDIAN

LEAPING LIZARD COSPLAY
COSPLAYER

oneblood

EMERALD COAST CONVENTION CENTER

FORT WALTON BEACH, FL

WWW.FANDOMCON.COM

UP COMING ANIME DVD/BLU-RAY RELEASES

AUTUMN 2014

September 23

Ghost in the Shell (25th Anniversary Edition)
Anchor Bay/Manga Entertainment
Blu-ray • $29.99 MSRP

Valvrave the Liberator: Season 1 Collection
Aniplex of America
Blu-ray • $149.98 MSRP

Attack on Titan, Part 2
FUNimation
DVD • $34.98 MSRP • Wal-mart exclusive

Attack on Titan, Part 2
FUNimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $49.98 MSRP

Attack on Titan, Part 2 (LE)
FUNimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $89.98 MSRP

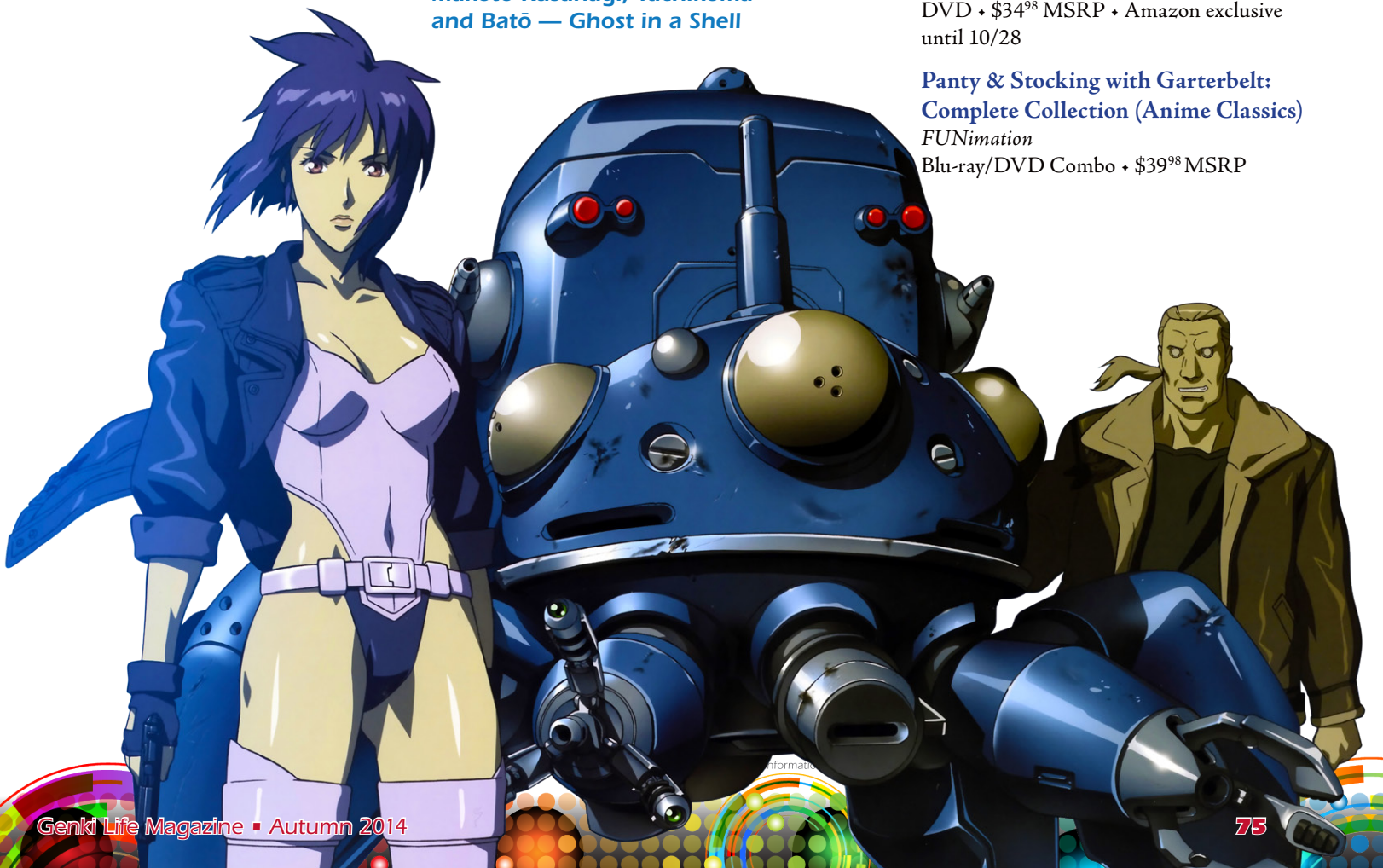
Attack on Titan, Part 2 (LE w/Ender Artbox)
FUNimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $99.98 MSRP

Attack on Titan, Part 2 Collector's Edition
FUNimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $128.98 MSRP • FUNi Shop Exclusive

One Piece: Collection 10
FUNimation
DVD • $34.98 MSRP • Amazon exclusive until 10/28

Panty & Stocking with Garterbelt: Complete Collection (Anime Classics)
FUNimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $39.98 MSRP

Makoto Kusanagi, Tachikoma and Batō — Ghost in a Shell



UPCOMING ANIME DVD/BLU-RAY

AUTUMN 2014 *Continued*

Robotech: The Classic Collection, Vol. 1 (includes Macross)
Harmony Gold/Lionsgate
DVD-R • $19.98 MSRP • Amazon exclusive

Ultimate Girls
Media Blasters
DVD • $24.98 MSRP • Sub

K-ON!: Season 1 Collection
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $49.98 MSRP

Kämpfer (TV + OVA): Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $59.98 MSRP • Sub

Pokémon - Black and White Adventures in Unova: Set 1
Viz Media
DVD • $26.95 MSRP • Dub

September 30

Mega Man: Complete Collection
Discotek Media
DVD • $49.95 MSRP • Dub

Marika Katō — Bodacious Space Pirates

Zombie-Loan: Complete Collection
Discotek Media
DVD • $44.95 MSRP • Sub

One Piece: Season 6, Part
FUNimation
DVD • $39.98 MSRP •
Amazon exclusive until 11/18

One Piece Film Z
FUNimation
DVD • $29.98 MSRP

One Piece Film Z
FUNimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $34.98 MSRP

Steins;Gate: Complete Collection (Anime Classics)
FUNimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $54.98 MSRP

Golden Time: Collection 1
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $49.98 MSRP • Sub

Golden Time: Collection 1
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $59.98 MSRP • Sub

Psychic Detective Yakumo: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $59.98 MSRP • Sub

Bleach: Set 22
Viz Media
DVD • $44.82 MSRP

October 7

Pokémon 4Ever
Lionsgate
DVD • $9.99 MSRP • Dub

RELEASES

Index and Tōma Kamijō — A Certain Magical Index

Pokémon Heroes
Lionsgate
DVD • $9.99 MSRP • Dub

Pokémon: Jirachi Wish Maker
Lionsgate
DVD • $9.99 MSRP • Dub

Pokémon: Destiny Deoxys
Lionsgate
DVD • $9.99 MSRP • Dub

Bodacious Space Pirates: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $69.98 MSRP

Bodacious Space Pirates: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $89.98 MSRP

Rozen Maiden - Zurückspulen: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $59.98 MSRP

Space Pirate Mito: Complete Collection
TRSI/Lucky Penny
DVD • $29.99 MSRP • S2: Sub

Junjo Romantica: Season 2 Collection (Litebox)
TRSI/Nozomi Entertainment
DVD • $44.99 MSRP • Sub

Mobile Suit Gundam Unicorn, Part 4
TRSI/Sunrise
DVD • $29.9 MSRP

Oct 7

Gargantia on the Verdurous Planet: Complete Collection
Viz Media
DVD • $44.82 MSRP

Gargantia on the Verdurous Planet: Complete Collection (LE)
Viz Media
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $69.99 MSRP

October 14

Yu-Gi-Oh! GX: Season 1 Collection
4K Media/Cinedigm
DVD • $44.99 MSRP • Dub

Yu-Gi-Oh! Complete Set
4K Media/Cinedigm
DVD • $44.99 MSRP • Dub

A Certain Magical Index II, Part 1
FUNimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $64.98 MSRP

Black Butler: Season 2 Collection (Anime Classics)
FUNimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $39.98 MSRP

Princess Jellyfish: Complete Collection (S.A.V.E. Edition)
FUNimation
DVD • $29.98 MSRP

Holy Knight
Media Blasters
DVD • $19.98 MSRP

Hanasaku Iroha the Movie ~ HOME SWEET HOME ~ Premium Edition
NIS America
Blu-ray • $49.99 MSRP • Sub

Fate/stay night (TV): Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $99.98 MSRP

The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice.

UPCOMING ANIME DVD/BLU-RAY

AUTUMN 2014 *Continued*

Kill Me Baby: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $69.98 MSRP

MEGANEBU!: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $49.98 MSRP • Sub

MEGANEBU!: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $59.98 MSRP • Sub

Naruto Movies 1-3 Triple Feature
Viz Media
DVD • $19.97 MSRP

Naruto Shippuden: Set 20
Viz Media
DVD • $44.82 MSRP

October 21

KILL la KILL, Vol.2
Aniplex of America
DVD • $39.98 MSRP

KILL la KILL, Vol.2
Aniplex of America
Blu-ray • $49.98 MSRP

KILL la KILL, Vol.2 (LE)
Aniplex of America
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $74.98 MSRP

BAYONETTA: Bloody Fate
FUNimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $34.98 MSRP

Ghost in the Shell: Arise - Borders 1 & 2
FUNimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $39.98 MSRP

A Letter to Momo
GKids/Cinedigm
DVD • $19.97 MSRP

A Letter to Momo
GKids/Cinedigm
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $29.95 MSRP

Sunday Without God: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $59.98 MSRP

Sunday Without God: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $69.98 MSRP

Samurai Warriors 4: Special Anime Pack (PS4)
Tecmo Koei
Blu-ray • $74.99 MSRP

October 23

Star Blazers 2199, Vol. 5
Voyager Entertainment USA
DVD • $34.99 MSRP • Sub

Star Blazers 2199, Vol. 5
Voyager Entertainment USA
Blu-ray • $44.99 MSRP • Sub

October 28

Dragon Ball Z: Season 8 Collection
FUNimation
Blu-ray • $44.98 MSRP

Fairy Tail, Part 12
FUNimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $54.98 MSRP

Fairy Tail, Part 13
FUNimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $54.98 MSRP

Hellsing Ultimate, Vol.9 & 10
FUNimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $44.98 MSRP

One Piece: Collection 10
FUNimation
DVD • $34.98 MSRP

Saya Takagi, Rei Miyamoto & Saeko Busujima — Highschool of the Dead

RELEASES

Hakkenden -Eight Dogs of the East-: Season 2 Collection
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $59.98 MSRP

Hakkenden -Eight Dogs of the East-: Season 2 Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $69.98 MSRP

Pokémon - Indigo League (Season 1), Vol. 2
Viz Media
DVD • $24.98 MSRP • Dub

Pokémon - Indigo League (Season 1), Vol. 3
Viz Media
DVD • $24.98 MSRP • Dub

Pokémon - Indigo League (Season 1): Complete Collection
Viz Media
DVD • $54.98 MSRP • Dub

November 4

Nyaruko: Crawling with Love!: Season 2 Premium Edition
NIS America
Blu-ray • $64.99 MSRP • Sub

Hidamari Sketch x Hoshimittsu (Season 3): Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $59.98 MSRP • Sub

High School of the Dead (TV & OVA): Complete Collection (CE)
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $149.98 MSRP

Jewel Bem Hunter Lime
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $19.98 MSRP

Natsuyuki Rendezvous: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $59.98 MSRP • Sub

November 11

My Mental Choices are Completely Interfering w/my School Romantic Comedy: C.C.
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $49.98 MSRP • Sub

My Mental Choices are Completely Interfering w/my School Romantic Comedy: C.C.
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $59.98 MSRP • Sub

Stella Women's Academy, High School Division Class C³: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $59.98 MSRP • Sub

Sailor Moon: Set 1
Viz Media
DVD • $44.82 MSRP

Sailor Moon: Set 1 (LE)
Viz Media
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $79.98 MSRP

November 18

The Wind Rises
Disney/Touchstone
DVD • $24.98 MSRP

The Wind Rises
Disney/Touchstone
Blu-ray • $58.82 MSRP

One Piece: Season 6, Part 1
FUNimation
DVD • $39.98 MSRP

I couldn't become a hero, so I reluctantly decided to get a job.: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $49.98 MSRP • Sub

I couldn't become a hero, so I reluctantly decided to get a job.: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $59.98 MSRP • Sub

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UP COMING ANIME DVD/BLU-RAY RELEASES

AUTUMN 2014

Tari Tari: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $59.98 MSRP • Sub

November 25

Nisekoi - False Love, Vol. 1
Aniplex of America
Blu-ray • $64.98 MSRP • Sub

Kite Collection
Media Blasters
DVD • $14.98 MSRP

Kite
Media Blasters
Blu-ray • $19.98 MSRP • Edited

Kite Liberator
Media Blasters
Blu-ray • $19.98 MSRP

Amagami SS: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $69.98 MSRP • Sub

Amagami SS: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $89.98 MSRP • Sub

Log Horizon: Collection 1
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $59.98 MSRP

Log Horizon: Collection 1
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $69.98 MSRP

December 2

Fairy Tail, Part 14
FUNimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $54.98 MSRP

December 18

Star Blazers 2199, Vol. 6
Voyager Entertainment USA
DVD • $34.99 MSRP • Sub

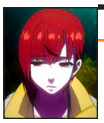
Star Blazers 2199, Vol. 6
Voyager Entertainment USA
Blu-ray • $44.99 MSRP • Sub

Tsukasa Ayatsuji, Ai Nanasaki, Sae Nakata, Kaoru Tanamachi, Rihoko Sakurai & Tsukasa Ayatsuji — Amagami SS

Anime Character Information

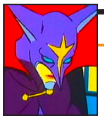
Art by Duffyknight2005

October



1
Nishino, Kimi
Tōkyō Ghoul

2
Lau Chan
Virtua Fighter



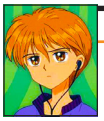
3
Berg Katse
Kagaku Ninjatai Gatchaman

4
Ayano, Keiko (Silica)
Sword Art Online

Quistis Trepe
Final Fantasy VIII

5
Tanaka, Kotoha
The Idolm@ster

10
Aoyagi, Kanna
Koe de Oshigoto



12
Hayama, Akito
Kodomo no Omocha

13
Nakuru, Akizuki
Card Captor Sakura

14
Sawada, Tsunayoshi
Katekyo Hitman Reborn!

Kumin, Tsuyuri
Chuunibyou demo Koi ga Shitai

16
Itō, Makoto
School Days

17
Itō, Nobue
Ichigo Mashimaro

18
Hasegawa, Kobato
Boku wa Tomodachi ga Sukunai

Mamoru
Sister Princess

22
Shirafuji, Kyōko
WORKING!

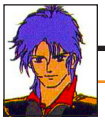
23
Nishizumi, Miho
Girls ünd Panzer

25
Bessho, Koyoi
Hatsukoi Limited

26
Kawasaki, Saki
Yahari Ore no Seishun Lovecome wa Machigatte Iru

Yatarō
Cuticle Tantei Inaba

27
Miyanaga, Saki
Saki



29
Mashma Serro
Kidō Senshi Gundam ZZ

31
Kashima, Yū
Gekkan Shōjo Nozaki-kun

Rachel Alucard
Blazblue

The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice.

NOVEMBER

1

Hoshizora, Rin

Love Live! School Idol Project

Tsukahara, Hibiki

Amagami SS

2

Loran Cehack

Turn ∀ Gundam

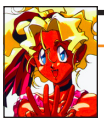
Nico

Tōkyō Ghoul

3

Seung Mina

Soul Calibur



4

Mihoshi

Tenchi Muyō!

Minegishi, Ayano

Lucky Star

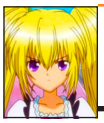
6

Sonozaki, Akane

Higurashi no Naku Koro Ni

Suō, Momoko

The Idolm@ster



9

Utau, Hoshina

Shugo Chara

11

Shigekazu, Sakanami

Koe de Oshigoto

12

Layla B. Simmons

Idol Project

13

Orihara, Kozue

Chaos HEAd

15

Joe Asakura/Condor Joe

Kagaku Ninjatai Gatchaman

16

Julio Surre

Sora o Kakeru Shōjo

19

Kefka Palazzo

Final Fantasy VI

20

Yuffie Kisaragi

Final Fantasy VII

21

Kumakura, Toshi

Saki

23

Iron Tager

BlazBlue

25

Katsuragi, Mari

Kami nomi zo Shiru Sekai

28

Katsura, Kokoro

School Days

Hori, Masayuki

Gekkan Shōjo Nozaki-kun

Suzuhara, Shūko

Angelic Layer

30

Mizuno, Tatsuya

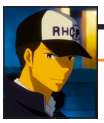
Whistle!

DECEMBER

1

Kujō, Karen

Kiniro Mosaic



2

Sanada, Ryū

Kimi ni Todoke

Uta

Tōkyō Ghoul

3

Kosaka, Chihiro

Kami nomi zo Shiru Sekai

Miyauchi, Renge

Non Non Biyori

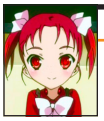
6

Tina Armstrong

Dead or Alive

Tsuruya

Suzumiya Haruhi no Yūutsu



7

Kōzuki, Yuniko

Accel World

10

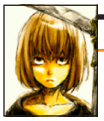
Kurosaki, Isshin

Bleach

12

Hōōji, Fū/Anemone

Mahō Kishi Rayearth



13

Keehl Mihael/Mello

Death Note

15

Barret Wallace

Final Fantasy VII

19

Shingūji, Shigure

Sora o Kakeru Shōjo

20

Kokutō, Mikiya

Kara no Kyōkai

21

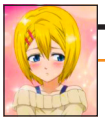
Makihara, Mika

Amagami

22

Yamagishi, Fūka

Shin Megami Tensei: Persona 3



23

Sasaki, Yūta

Cuticle Tantei Inaba

24

Francesca Lucchini

Strike Witches

Yukifune, Airi

Robotics;Notes

25

Noel Vermillion

BlazBlue

27

Tatsumi, Sei'ichirō

Yami no Matsuei

30

Chikura, Nao

Hatsukoi Limited

Russia

Ivan Braginski

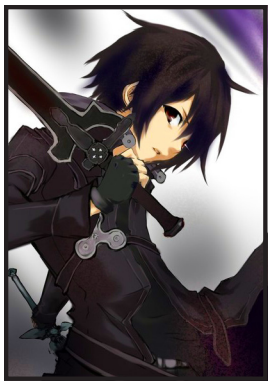
Axis Powers Hetalia

31

Sawanoguchi, Sae

Mahō Tsukai Tai!

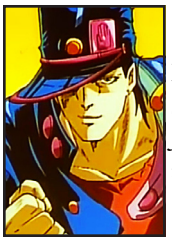
TOP MALE RANKING



1
Kirigaya, Kazuto
桐ヶ谷 和人
Sword Art Online

2
Shiba, Tatsuya
司波 達也
Mahōka Kōkō no Rettōsei

3
Kira Yamato
キラ・ヤマト
Kidō Senshi Gundam SEED



4
Kujō, Jōtarō
空条 承太郎
JoJo no Kimyō na Bōken

5
Satomi, Rentarō
里見 蓮太郎
Black Bullet

6
Tōru Acura
トール・アキュラ
Hitsugi no Chaika

7
Hase, Yūki
長谷 祐樹
Isshūkan Friends

8
Nishinoya, Yū
西谷 夕
Haikyū!!

9
Ginko
ギンコ
Mushishi

10
Kisaragi, Shintarō
如月 伸太郎
Mekaku City Actors

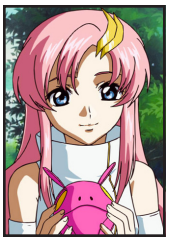
TOP FEMALE RANKING

1
Chaika Trabant
チャイカ・トラバント
Hitsugi no Chaika

2
Azuma, Tokaku
東 兎角
Akuma no Riddle

3
Shiba, Miyuki
司波 深雪
Mahōka Kōkō no Rettōsei

4
Yūki, Asuna
結城 明日奈
Sword Art Online



5
Lacus Clyne
ラクス・クライン
Kidō Senshi Gundam SEED

6
Saber Arturia Pendragon
セイバー・アルトリア・ペンドラゴン
Fate/zero

7
Fujimiya, Kaori
藤宮 香織
Isshūkan Friends

8
Suzumiya, Haruhi
涼宮ハルヒ
Suzumiya Haruhi no Yūutsu

9
Mutō, Hana
夢塔 ハナ
Captain Earth

10
Tateyama, Ayano
楯山 文乃
Mekaku City Actors

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WHO ARE YOU REALLY?

ANIME NEBRASKON.COM

OCT. 31 - NOV. 2 2014

It is nice to see Black Butler back on track. I wouldn't say the second season is a divisive adaptation, but it always nice to see a shōnen series stay true to its source material.

The series is titled *Book of Circus*, which reminds me to one of Sherlock Holmes cases. The main cast from previous series returned, along with new cast members such as Miyano Mamoru for the role of Joker. In addition, SID is back for the opening theme.

The first episode looks like it's aimed for newcomers because it's just a filler story about the daily lives in Phantomhive Manor. The focus of the series is at the end of the episode when Ciel received an envelope from the Queen, containing a letter and Noah's Ark Circus's ticket, ordering him to investigate the circus which is suspected for disappearance of several children in London. Finding no clue about the case, Ciel decided to intensely investigate the circus by sign up, taking the entrance test and disguise himself as a member of the circus along with Sebastian.

Wendy & Peter of Noah's Ark Circus

However, everything is not according to the plan since they found out Shinigami is also investigating the circus.

If you ask me. The story is more realistic than the usual; it's lack of magic, mature and more focused on the mystery. It is a good thing because many of viewers nowadays seek for a more realistic story. Some fan service maybe provided but it can be easily avoided because the situation always predictable.

However, just because the plot heavily focuses on mystery doesn't mean it will be dark and serious. *Book of Circus* even is more funny than the entire *Black Butler* franchise because most of the new characters are cheerful and is set in the circus—a place full of entertainment. In addition, the animation is as you'd expected from a 2014 anime. It is gorgeous with its subtle use of colors, clear lines, rich detail and its realistic depiction of fantastical elements. A-1 Pictures is well known for its cost-cutting method in producing a series. However, in this series, they made it as though the art is made with a higher budget. The music is excellent; a combination between j-rock music at the beginning, classical European soundtrack in the middle and ballad song for

closing, maybe, is very strange. However, it is always the best music for the *Black Butler* series since it is made in Japan and story is set in Europe in the Victorian era.

If there's something that bugged me from this series, it would be come from characters. That's not only because of a weak villain, but because the character's development are very bad. Many of the characters like Jumbo and the Twins just get development from a flashback of the other characters. Moreover, the new Shinigami even didn't get any development. Speaking of our main characters—Ciel and Sebastian—there are no big changes in their personalities. Still serious, arrogant, but funny when comedy scene happens.

Despite its flaws, this is the most enjoyable *Black Butler* series so far. Its success makes me eager to wait every week for the new episode. For the 2014 summer, this series is very "under the radar" except if you're familiar with it. It maybe not as dark as *Aldnoah* or as enganging *Terror in Resonance* but it is very simplistic and enjoyable. I recommend this for those who like stereotypical shōnen series. ❖ coltcobana

Joker, leader of Noah's Ark Circus

Kuroshitsuji: Book of Circus
(Black Butler: Book of Circus)
黒執事・サーカスの書

TV • July 10 to September 14, 2010
A-1 Pictures • Funimation

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Butler

www.kuroshitsuji.tv

www.funimation.com

Director: Abe, Noriyuki
Writer: Yoshino, Hiroyuki
Music: Mitsuda, Yasunori

Cast:
Sebastian Michaelis = Ono, Daisuke
Earl Ciel Phantomhive = Sakamoto, Maaya
Joker = Miyano, Mamoru

EVANG

Cosplay Photshoot

Photgrapher: **Michelle Schrokosch**
Assn. Photographers: **Ed Gomez & Jason Chang**

First Child and pilot of Unit 00
Rei Ayanami (Allie Barnum)

Second Child and pilot of Unit 02
Asuka Langley Soryu (Madison Callihan)

Third Child and pilot of Unit 01
Shinji Ikari (Madison Reeves)

Fifth Child and Seventeenth Angel
Kaworu Nagisa (Kira Aiiruka)

Chief Operations Officer, NERV
Major Misato Katsuragi (Samantha Raskin)

Commander of NERV
Commander Gendo Ikari (Ed Gomez)

最終教條區
Terminal Dogma
CPU
46%
央處理器
0°C
Temp
EMERGENCY
RAM
38%
8.00 G
系統記憶體
27%
16.00 G
SWAP
NERV
'S IN HIS HEAVEN, ALL'S RIGH

T WITH THE WORLD.
天氣
溫度
2013/06/15
SAT
EMERGENCY
Total

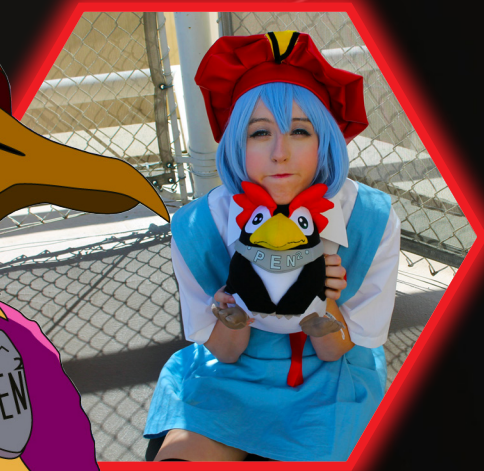
UNIT-02 LAUNCH

ATTACK

POSITRON
EVANGELION

CHILDREN

TOKYO-03



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CONSOLE & DESKTOP GAMING

AUTUMN 2014

September 23

Ar Nosurge: Ode to an Unborn Star
Tecmo KOEI • Gust
PS3 • RPG

Arcana Heart 3: Love Max!!!!!
Aksys Games
PS Vita, PS3 • Fighting

Rise Kujikawa & Yū Narukami — Persona 4 Arena: Ultimax

Defense Grid 2
505 Games • Hidden Path Entertainment
PC, PS4, XOne • Strategy, RPG

Disney Infinity: 2.0 Edition — Marvel Super Heroes
Disney Interactive Studios • Avalanche Software (USA)
PS3, PS4, Wii U, X360, XOne • Action

FIFA 15
Electronic Arts • EA Canada
PC, PS3, PS4, X360, XOne • Sports

FIFA 15: Legacy Edition
Electronic Arts • EA Canada
3DS, PS Vita, Wii • Sports

Flockers
Team17 Software
PS4, XOne • Puzzle

Gauntlet
Warner Bros. Games • Arrowhead Game Studios
PC • Action

Slender: The Arrival
Midnight City • Blue Isle Studios
PS3, X360 • Adventure

September 24

Dark Souls II: Crown of the Ivory King
Bandai Namco Games • FromSoftware
PC, PS3, X360 • Action, RPG

Fenix Rage
Id Software
PC • Platformer

September 25

Mario Golf: Advance Tour
Nintendo • Camelot Software Planning
Wii U • Sports

The Vanishing of Ethan Carter
The Astronauts
PS4 • Adventure

Yu-Gi-Oh! Zexal World! Duel Carnival
Konami • MCP2
3DS • Battle

September 26

Hyrule Warriors
Nintendo • Omega Force, Team Ninja
Wii U • Action

September 28

IL-2 Sturmovik: Battle of Stalingrad
1C Company • 777 Studios
PC • Strategy

September 30

Persona 4 Arena Ultimax
Atlus • ARC System Works
PS3, X360 • Fighting

Forza Horizon 2
Microsoft • Playground Games, Sumo Digital, Turn 10 Studios
X360, XOne • Racing

The inf[illegible] here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice.

CONSOLE & DESKTOP GAMING

AUTUMN 2014

Middle-Earth: Shadow of Mordor
Warner Bros. Interactive • Monolith Productions
PC, PS4, X360, XOne • Action, Adventure

Natural Doctrine
NIS • Kadokawa Games
PS Vita, PS3, PS4 • RPG

Senran Kagura: Shinovi Versus
XSEED
PS Vita • Action

Tulpa
Rising Star Games • Encryptique Studios
Linux, MAC, PC • Puzzle

Castlevania X: Rondo of Blood
Konami
Wii U • Platformer

October 2

Metal Slug X
SNK Playmore • SNK, DotEmu
PC • Shooter

Middle-Earth: Shadow of Mordor
Warner Bros. Interactive • Monolith Productions
PC • Action, Adventure

October 3

Assassin's Creed: Birth of a New World – The American Saga Collection
Ubisoft
PC, PS3, X360 • Compilation

Super Smash Bros. 3DS
Nintendo • Bandai Namco Games
3DS • Fighting

October 5

Skylanders Trap Team
Activision • Toys for Bob
3DS, PS3, PS4, Wii, Wii U, X360, XOne • Action, Adventure

October 7

Alien: Isolation
SEGA • Creative Assembly
PC, PS3, PS4, X360, XOne • Action

Costume Quest 2
Midnight City • Double Fine Productions
Wii U • RPG

Driveclub
Sony Computer Entertainment • Evolution Studios
PS4 • Racing

Duck Dynasty
Activision
3DS, PS3, PS4, XOne • Hunting

NBA 2K15
2K Games • Visual Concepts
PS3, PS4, X360, XOne • Sports

NBA Live 15
Electronic Arts • EA Tiburon
PS4, XOne • Sports

Project Spark
Microsoft • Team Dakota
XOne • Productivity, Action

Tenkai Knights: Brave Battle
Bandai Namco Games
3DS • Action

October 10

Ryse: Son of Rome
Microsoft • Crytek Studios
PC • Action, Adventure

October 14

Borderlands: The Pre-Sequel
2K Games • 2K Australia, Gearbox Software
Linux, PC, PS3, X360 • Shooter, RPG

Pac-Man and the Ghostly Adventures 2
Bandai Namco Games
3DS, Wii U • Platformer

Petz: Countryside
Ubisoft
3DS • Virtual Pet

Poptropica: Forgotten Islands
Jeff Kinney Group • Family Education Network
3DS • Adventure

Sleeping Dogs: Definitive Edition
Square Enix • United Front Games
PS4, XOne • Action

Tears to Tiara II: Heir of the Overlord
Atlus • Aquaplus
PS3 • RPG

The Evil Within
Bethesda Softworks • Tango Gameworks
PC, PS3, PS4, X360, XOne • Adventure

October 16

A City Sleeps
Harmonix
MAC, PC • Shooter

October 17

F1 2014
Codemasters
PC, PS3, X360, PS4 • Puzzle, Action

October 21

Disney Fantasia: Music Evolved
Disney Interactive Studios • Harmonix
X360, XOne • Music, Action

Jagged Alliance: Flashback
Full Control Games
PC • Strategy

The Legend of Korra
Activision • PlatinumGames
PC, PS3, PS4, X360, XOne • Action

October 23

Just Dance 2015
Ubisoft • Ubisoft Paris
PC, PS3, PS4, Wii, Wii U, X360, XOne • Music

October 24

Bayonetta 2
Nintendo • Platinum Games, Nintendo SPD
Wii U • Action

Fantasy Life
Nintendo • Level-5
3DS • RPG

Pokemon Art Academy
Nintendo
3DS • Productivity

Samurai Warriors 4
Tecmo KOEI • Omega Force
PS Vita, PS3, PS4 • Action

Sid Meier's Civilization: Beyond Earth
2K Games • Firaxis
Linux, MAC, PC • Simulation

October 28

Big Hero 6: Battle in the Bay
Game Mill Entertainment • 1st Playable Productions
3DS • Action

Freedom Wars
Sony Computer Entertainment • Shift, Dimps, SCE Studios Japan
PS Vita • Action

Lords of the Fallen
CI Games • Deck 13, CI Games
PC, PS4, XOne • RPG, Action

MX vs. ATV Supercross Preview
Nordic Games Publishing
Linux, PC, PS3, X360 • Racing

Power Rangers Super Megaforce
Bandai Namco Games
3DS • Action, Adventure

Sunset Overdrive
Microsoft Game Studios • Insomniac Games
XOne • Action

Bayonetta — Bayonetta 2

...tion presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice.

CONSOLE & DESKTOP GAMING

AUTUMN 2014

The Legend of Korra 3DS
Activision • Webfoot Technologies
3DS • Strategy

WWE 2K15
Take-Two Interactive • Yuke's Media Creations
PS4, X360 • Wrestling

WarGreymon — Digimon All-Star Rumble

November 1

Gunscape
Blowfish Studios
PC, XOne • Shooter

November 4

Call of Duty: Advanced Warfare
Activision • Sledgehammer Games
PC, PS3, PS4, X360, XOne • Shooter

November 4

Citizens of Earth
Atlus • Eden Industries
Wii U • RPG

Disney Infinity: 2.0 Edition — Toy Box Starter Pack
Disney Interactive Studios • Avalanche Software (USA)
PS3, PS4, Wii U, X360, XOne • Action

Disney Planes: Fire & Rescue
Disney Interactive Studios • Little Orbit
3DS, Wii U • Flight, Action

MotoGP 14
Bandai Namco Games • Milestone
PC, PS Vita, PS3, PS4, X360 • Racing

The Binding of Isaac: Rebirth
Independent • Nicalis
MAC, PC, PS Vita, PS3, PS4, X360 • RPG

November 5

Citizens of Earth
Atlus • Eden Industries
3DS • RPG

November 11

Assassin's Creed Unity
Ubisoft • Ubisoft Montreal
PC, PS4, XOne • Action, Adventure

Assassin's Creed Rogue
Ubisoft • Ubisoft Sofia
PS3, X360 • Action

Digimon All-Star Rumble
Bandai Namco Games • Prope
PS3, X360 • Battle

Halo: The Master Chief Collection
Microsoft • 343 Industries
XOne • Shooter

LEGO Batman 3: Beyond Gotham
Warner Bros. Interactive • TT Games
3DS, PC, PS Vita, PS3, PS4, Wii U, X360 • Action

Sonic Boom: Shattered Crystal
SEGA • Sanzaru Games
3DS • Platformer

Tales of Hearts R
Bandai Namco Games • Namco Tales Studio
PS Vita • RPG

The Crew
Ubisoft • Ubisoft Reflections, Ivory Tower
PC, PS4, X360, XOne • Action, Racing

November 18

Adventure Time: The Secret of the Nameless Kingdom
Little Orbit • WayForward Technologies
3DS • Adventure

Company of Heroes 2: Ardennes Assault
SEGA • Relic
PC • Strategy

Dragon Age: Inquisition
Electronic Arts • BioWare
PC, PS3, PS4, X360, XOne • RPG

Far Cry 4
Ubisoft • Ubisoft Montreal, Ubisoft Kiev
PC, PS3, PS4, X360, XOne • Shooter

Grand Theft Auto V
Rockstar Games • Rockstar North
PS4 • Action, Adventure

Hatsune Miku -Project DIVA- F 2nd
SEGA
PS Vita, PS3 • Music

LittleBigPlanet 3
Sony Computer Entertainment • Sumo Digital, XDev Studios Europe
PS3, PS4 • Platformer

Middle-Earth: Shadow of Mordor
Warner Bros. Interactive • Monolith Productions
PS3 • Action, Adventure

MXGP: The Official Motocross Videogame
Bandai Namco Games • Milestone
Linux, PC, PS Vita, PS3, PS4, X360 • Racing

Sonic Boom: Rise of Lyric
SEGA • Big Red Button Entertainment
Wii U • Platformer

WWE 2K15
Take-Two Interactive • Yuke's Media Creations
PS3, XOne • Wrestling

November 19

Young Justice: Legacy
Little Orbit • Freedom Factory
3DS, PC, Wii U, X360 • Action

November 21

Pokémon Alpha Sapphire Version
Nintendo• Game Freak
3DS • RPG

Pokémon Omega Ruby Version
Nintendo • Game Freak
3DS • RPG

November 25

Persona Q: Shadow of the Labyrinth
Atlus
3DS • RPG

The Penguins of Madagascar — The Game
Little Orbit
3DS, Wii, Wii U • Action

December 2

Kingdom Hearts HD II.5 ReMIX
Square Enix
PS3 • Compilation, RPG

December 5

NES Remix Pack
Nintendo
Wii U • Compilation

Ultimate NES Remix
Nintendo
3DS • Party

December 9

Lara Croft and the Temple of Osiris
Square Enix • Crystal Dynamics
PC, PS4, XOne • Action

MetalGarurumon — Digimon All-Star Rumble

MANGA REVIEW

Food Wars! SHOKUGEKI NO SOMA

Food Wars! Shokugeki no Sōma is a new manga under the license of Viz Media. This manga happens to be about a young man who is aspiring to be a chef good enough to surpass his dad. Once their restaurant closes for a few years with his dad opting to cook and travel, he enters his son into a prestigious culinary school were less than 10% of any particular class actually graduates. Will he be able to come out on top despite his common background amongst the cooking elite?

Food Wars: Shokugeki no Sōma
食戟のソーマ Shokugeki no Sōma
August 2014 (November 2012) - ongoing
Viz Media • Shueisha
http://www.vizmanga.com/reader/2695-food-wars-1

Author: Tsukuda, Yūto
Illustrator: Saeki, Shun

Genre: Cooking, Comedy, Drama
Format: Softcover/Manga
Pages: approx 200
Price: $9.99 MSRP

Story and Plot Impressions

The plot of *Food Wars! Shokugeki no Sōma* is actually very simplistic. You have a boy (Sōma Yukihira, 15-years-old) who has been cooking ever since he can remember with dreams of becoming better than his father (Jōichirō Yukihira, 38-years-old). Though, when Jōichirō closes down the family restaurant to travel abroad and cook for his friends, Sōma is heart broken and does not know what to do (especially since he said that the place would never shut down!). His father tells Sōma to enter a prestigious cooking school where less than 10% of all applicants pass, the Tōtsuki Culinary Academy. Whether or not he can pass the school seems to be the sole purpose behind this manga.

From the way the manga is presented, Sōma probably got his cooking aspiration from his father, who is also a chef. It is obvious that everyone in the manga has a big affinity for cooking, or at least the two main characters (which I believe are Sōma and Erina) pride themselves above everyone else when it comes to food. However, it is pretty much guaranteed that they will face instructors who force everyone at the culinary school to be creative (something that Sōma apparently has, due to his food experimentation), and that there will be other students that practice different techniques and specialize in different cuisines. I believe his passion for cooking will take Sōma far and his irregular techniques and abstract food knowledge will ultimately show his skill as a up-and-coming chef and gourmand, but he will be tested and forced to learn new things as more challenge appear before him.

Also, I see a budding rivalry and romance between Sōma Yukihira and female lead Erina Nakiri which could add to drama and conflict down the line, especially since it is hinted earlier by a comment Jōichirō makes and by what Sōma says to Erina during his test to be (hopefully) accepted into the Tōtsuki Culinary Academy. It already seems that this will be a main plot device, as Erina is of higher stature and seems embarrassed to say she was perplexed and delightfully enticed by Sōma's cooking upon their first meeting due to him being "common." From Erina's and Sōma's first meeting and the way that they both seem confident in their abilities, I would not be surprised if the finale of the series is both Erina and Sōma fighting for the spot of 1st and 2nd place amongst the small handful of graduates from their particular class…but since that is 4 years

Erina & Sōma

down the line (in the manga) it is too early to actually tell.

I am impressed that I did not see any flaws within the plot, but probably because it is just starting off and we only have the most basic of details before us. However, it did start itself off very well without leaving many questions (though, one does wonder where Sōma's mother is since she is shown but no history is given), but rather it has you anxious for what will happen next. It is honestly intriguing that a story talking about the art of cooking could be done in such a fitting fashion which displays the hard work, passion and the amount of knowledge it takes to actually cook a good dish (and the whole time, not be boring!). Nothing more to say than this manga started off extremely well.

Character Impressions and Development

Everyone within *Food Wars! Shokugeki no Sōma* seems to have a very vibrant, colorful personality. In fact, one could argue that they seem too animated, but that is also part of the charm that makes them all so wonderful. Having people with clear, decisive roles makes for comical relief when they act in a way that the reader does not anticipate. Sure, something of this nature is not really good for manga like *Gangsta.*, where you need to have characters with multi-tiered personalities to get the seriousness and human-like emotion across, but in a comedic manga regarding cooking it works perfectly fine. At the moment there does not seem to be any truly malicious characters (since the only true antagonists were defeated in a very humorous way), but that could change sometime down the road.

The only true downside to the "straight-forward" characters that we have is that they seem to fit into classic roles normally seen in other anime. Sōma's "carefree, hardworking, I am going to be the best" attitude is reminiscent of characters like Eijun Sawamura from *Diamond no Ace*, Itsuki Minami from *Air Gear*, or Naruto Uzumaki from *Naruto*. While it does fit perfectly with the manga presented, it is an archetype that we have seen many times already. Even the character Erina Nakiri is a common character-type we have seen; someone who is snobby because they have a rich or prestigious background but whom ultimately respects the main character but refuses to acknowledge that (but will probably acknowledge them face-to-face at some point later in the series). This is reminiscent of characters like Ichirō Miyata in *Hajime no Ippo*, Vegeta in *Dragon Ball Z* and Seto Kaiba in *Yu-Gi-Oh!*.

As far as character development goes, there was not really much of any (which is about the only let down I have seen) because it was the first volume and I assume they needed time to establish who-and-what character's positions and dispositions are; however, we do get to see other sides of characters, the main one being Erina Nakiri. Erina thought that she knew more and was better than everyone else because of her "Divine Tongue" and her upbringing; however, she was bested by Sōma's cooking and was so prideful, despite loving it, she denied him. Even if she never did repent, she at least showed signs of guilt and respect for what she had endured, which shows vulnerability in her personality, but also makes her out to rather close-minded. Though, Sōma wanting to serve people he meets random food combinations that he believes "are so bad, it's funny" shows just how twisted he can be.

I liked the characters that I saw and while they easily fit into molds that we have seen from plenty of other characters already, that is not really a bad thing as it works with what they are given but staying in that mold could be dangerous. I am interested to see how characters relationships form with each other based on what is expected of them, not to mention how their growth will effect their emotions even more.

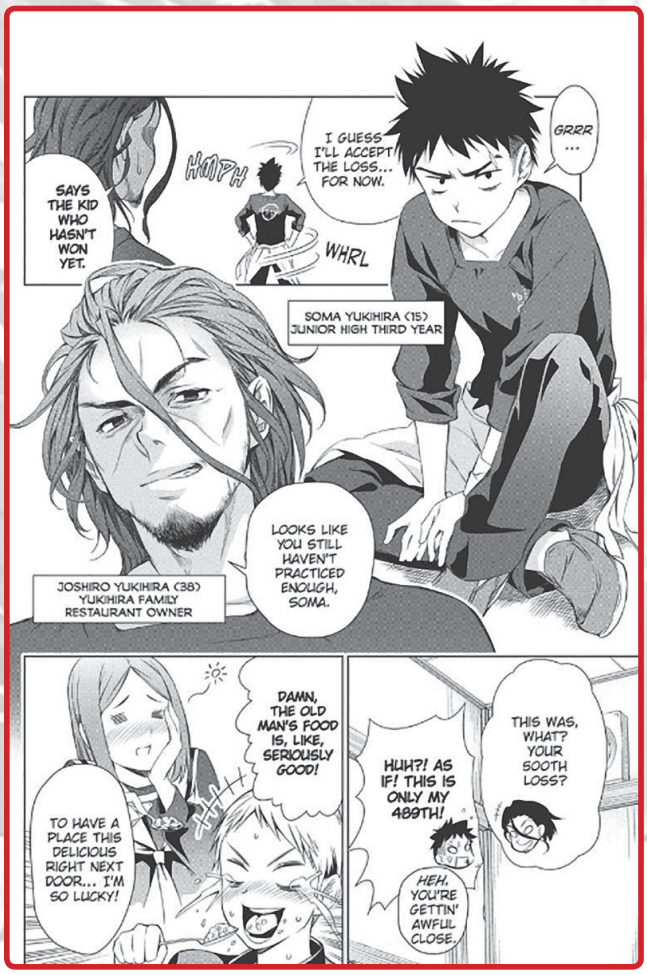
Other Mentions

While there are a few other things that I wanted to point out, they just did not fit into any of the above sections. The things I wanted to talk bout were mainly how I really enjoyed the art, how the story has a subtle ecchi aspect that is more comedic than actually sexual and the fact you can actually learn about cooking through this manga.

The art in itself is very good and I love the use of psuedo-realistic style when it comes to the food, but I love how women look inside of this manga above all else. Many manga draw guys who are cool looking and the epitome

of manliness, but often times do we fail to see pretty women who are not sexualized and seem empowered without being overly masculine; well, this manga does it. The girls look soft, feminine, yet are able to be drawn in a way that makes them appear just as strong as the male characters within their own right. I credit this to the facial expressions given to them while also having a broader shoulder length than some of the other women in manga I have read.

The other thing I wanted to talk about are the soft undertones of comedic ecchi content. How the manga-ka decided to express certain tastes is drawn and described in a way that would make the reader find it rather "suggestive," nearly intrusive. The first example of the book is when Sōma has a friend try one of his creations only to say that it felt so twisted, it was like someone had molested her from head to toe (with a picture image which suggested tentacle rape). You even have a case where Erina tries Sōma's "Morphing Furikake Rice" and is imagining herself being pulled naked by a hoard of chibi angels who look strangely similar to Sōma, all while saying "I-I don't want to accept it…but my tongue…my body… th-they can't help but react!" The way it is described is sexually suggestive, but it is done for the comedic effect more than anything else which makes it understandable, acceptable, and utterly hilarious (especially for me since perverted comedy is one of my favorite manga genres).



I am not much of a cook, but I do love new information and already this manga has a lot to offer. Most anime and manga explain things vividly in order to make sure the reader understands exactly what is going on, while sometimes things are exaggerated for effect, a lot of the knowledge given exists here in the real world. Explaining things like using honey to tenderize meat or the properties behind "Morphing Furikake Rice" is surely beneficial to someone who is not experienced in the kitchen. Also, I like the fact the manga-ka took it upon themselves to give an actual food recipe within the manga to get better interaction with the reader, brilliant!

The Verdict

STRENGTHS - Excellent artwork, appealing characters, well-delivered comedy, good plot advancement, good explanation of food properties.

WEAKNESSES - No explanation for Sōma's mother's whereabouts, typical character archetypes.

This seems like a great start to an interesting series. I have always loved specialty series because you often learn a lot from them by the end, but I have never seen one revolving around cooking done so well (though it is still within its early stages). Characters, while typical and predictable, are fun and appealing because of the environment given to them and the type of story that *Food Wars! Shokugeki no Sōma* is. The plot and the type of school Sōma's attending is sure to make for some heartbreak for future characters as well as the rivalry that is brewing between him and Erina is sure to be spectacle that I am looking forward to. Do yourself a favor and pick up this manga. It is good to the last bite and will be sure to full your otaku appetite! Thanks for reading! ❖ RoK the Reaper

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Yamamoto, Hotate

A 10-year-old elementary schoolgirl who lives with her grandma after her parents died. She is sent to live with her "uncle" to start a new life since her grandma could no loger take care of her. She as the ability to see spirits.

Yamamoto, Zenjirō

Hotate's "uncle" who she now lives with and takes care of her. Later on we learn that Zenjirō is actually Hotate's real father and always by his side is his dead wife's spirit.

Yamamoto Zenjirō to Mōshimasu

by

Maki, Yōko (槙ようこ)

Nearing the end of her life, Hotate's grandmother sends her to live with her uncle. 10-year-old Hotate Yamamoto begins her hew life with her uncle, Zenjirō Yamamoto, when he came to pick her up. Hotate has the innate ability to see and talk to spirits as Zenjirō found out after Hotate began school and was hurt because of that ability. To Zenjirō's suprise, Hotate already knew that he was her real father by the spirit of her deceased mom who was always by his side. As a kid with special abilities, it's hard to keep it hidden. Zenjirō accepts her ability and advices her to use it for the good. So begins the the story of Hotate and Zenjirō.

Here's a preview of the first chapter. Be sure to support the author.

These pages are meant to read in spreads, side by side.
The story flow will be off, if read page by individual page.

Yamamoto Zenjirō to Mōshimasu
(I am called Yamamoto Zenjirō)
山本善次郎と申します

Shueisha
February 2007 – August 2011, 5 Volumes

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yamamoto_Zenjirou_to_Moushimasu

ribon.shueisha.co.jp

Author: Maki, Yōko

Genre: Drama, Romance, Shōjo, Slice of Life, Supernatural

Format: Softcover/Manga
Price: ¥432 MSRP each volume

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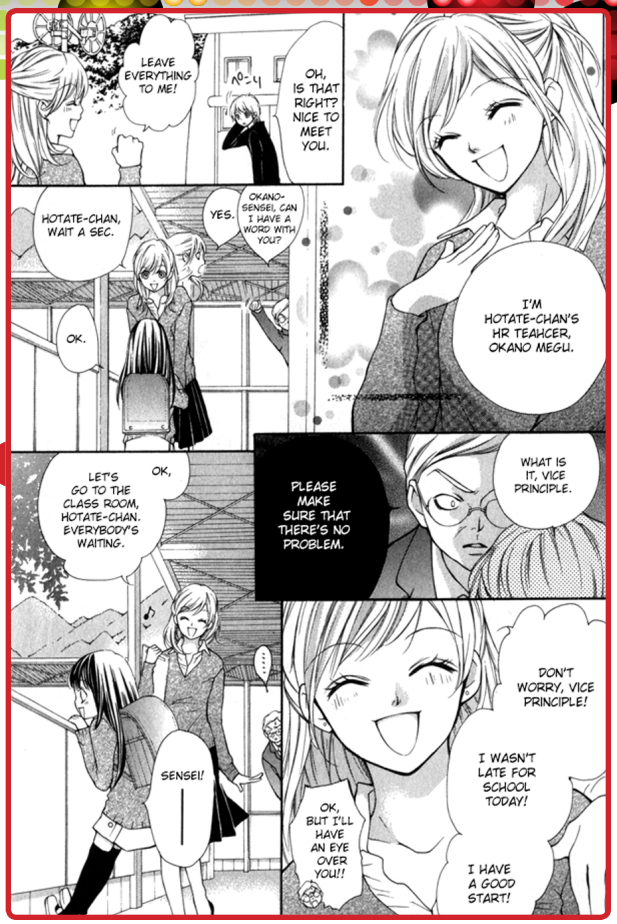

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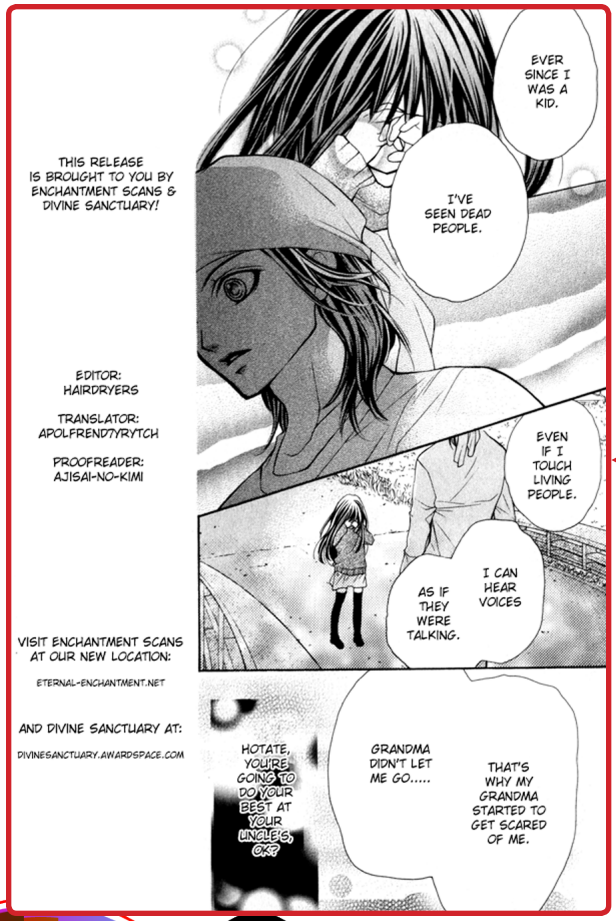

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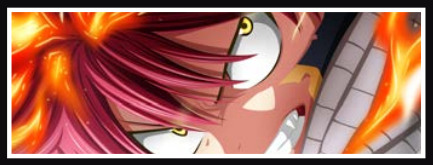

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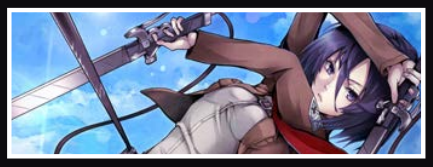

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